PRIVATE SPACES FOR PUBLIC EDUCATORS:

FACULTY IN RESIDENCE ON THE LAWN
1824-1895

ANNA MERRICK BONEWITZ
KENAN FELLOWSHIP
SUMMER 2011
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II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project would not have been possible without the generous support of the Kenan Foundation, which enabled me to carry out research on a subject that I had been interested in since I first traversed the lawn at the University of Virginia. From the moment I began my studies as a graduate student in the History of Art and Architecture Department, I have repeatedly found myself wandering the Academical Village. While admiring the majesty of Mr. Jefferson’s design for the original campus, I have wondered who it was that lived in Jefferson’s Academical Village, and particularly, who it was that lived and taught in the ten pavilion residences that elegantly line either side of the Rotunda.

And so it was that I found myself applying for a Kenan Fellowship this past spring, to support my research of the men who taught and lived in the pavilions during the nineteenth century. I am most grateful to have been awarded a Kenan Fellowship to conduct this research, and to the support of the University’s library staff at the Albert and Shirley Small Collections Library.

My interests in Jefferson and the University’s architecture, however, would not have been piqued to the degree that it has been if it were not for the mentorship of Professor Richard Guy Wilson, who I have had the pleasure of studying under and who has supervised this project.

It is to him that I dedicate this project, for introducing me to the study of architectural history, for his support and his inspiration.
III. Chairmen of the Faculty

(By Election of the Faculty.)

1825. Prof. George Tucker
1826. Prof. Robley Dunglison
1827. Prof. John Tayloe Lomax
1828. George Tucker

(By Appointment of the Board of Visitors:)

From 1828 to 1830: Prof. Robley Dunglison
From 1833 to 1835: Prof. Charles Bonnycastle
From 1839 to 1840: Prof. John A. G. Davis
From 1844 to 1845: Prof. William B. Rogers
From 1847 to 1854: Prof. Gessner Harrison
From 1830 to 1832: Prof. Robert M. Patterson
From 1835 to 1837: Prof. John A. G. Davis
From 1840 to 1842: Prof. Gessner Harrison
From 1845 to 1846: Prof. Edward H. Courtneay
From 1854 to 1868: Prof. Socrates Maupin
From 1873 to —: Prof. James F. Harrison
From 1832 to 1833: Prof. George Tucker
From 1837 to 1839: Prof. Gessner Harrison
From 1842 to 1844: Prof. Henry St. George Tucker
From 1846 to 1847: Prof. James L. Cabell
From 1870 to 1873: Prof. Charles S. Venable

Secretaries of the Faculty

1825: Prof. Robley Dunglison
From 1831 to 1832: Prof. Gessner Harrison
1826: Prof. John P. Emmet
From 1832 to 1834: Prof. Thomas Johnson
From 1836 to —: William Wertenbaker
From 1826 to 1831: William Wertenbaker
From 1834 to 1836: Prof. Alfred T. Magill
Professors

School of Ancient Languages

George Long, from 1825 to 1828.
Gessner Harrison, from 1828 to 1856.

School of Latin

Gessner Harrison, from 1856 to 1859.
Lewis M. Coleman, from 1859 to 1861.
Basil L. Gildersleeve, from 1861 to 1865.
William E. Peters, from 1865 to —

School of Greek

Basil L. Gildersleeve, from 1856 to 1876.

School of Modern Languages

George Blaettermann, from 1825 to 1840.
Charles Kraitsir, from 1841 to 1844.
Maximilian Schele de Vere, from 1844 to —

School of Mathematics

Thomas Hewitt Key, from 1825 to 1827.
Albert T. Bledsoe, from 1854 to 1863.
Charles Bonnycastle, from 1827 to 1840.
Charles S. Venable, from 1866 to —
Robert T. Massie, from 1861 to 1862.
J. J. Sylvester, from 1840 to 1841.
Pike Powers, (By temporary appointment.) from 1840 to 1842.
Francis H. Smith, from 1863 to 1865.
Edward H. Courtenay, from 1842 to 1853.
Alexander L. Nelson, from 1853 to 1854.
School of Natural Philosophy

Charles Bonnycastle, from 1825 to 1828.
Robert M. Patterson, from 1828 to 1835.
William B. Rogers, from 1835 to 1853.
Francis H. Smith, from 1853 to —

School of Chemistry

John P. Emmet, from 1825 to 1842.
Robert E. Rogers, from 1842 to 1852.
J. Lawrence Smith, from 1852 to 1853.
Socrates Maupin, from 1853 to 1871.
John W. Mallet, from 1872 to —

School of Moral Philosophy

George Tucker, from 1825 to 1845.
William H. Mcguffey, from 1845 to 1873.
Noah K. Davis, from 1873 to —

School of History and General Literature

George F. Holmes, from 1857 to —

School of Medicine

Robley Dunglison, from 1825 to 1833.
Alfred T. Magill, from 1833 to 1837.
Robert E. Griffith, from 1837 to 1839.
Henry Howard, from 1839 to 1867.
James F. Harrison, from 1867 to —
School of Anatomy and Surgery

Thomas Johnson,
  From 1827 to 1831, Demonstrator.
  From 1831 to 1834, Professor.
John Staige Davis,
  From 1845 to 1849, Demonstrator.
  From 1849 to 1856, Lecturer and Demonstrator.
  From 1856 to — Prof. of Anatomy,
  Materia Medica and Botany.
Augustus L. Warner, from 1834 to 1837,
  Prof. of Anatomy, Physiology and Surgery.
B. W. Allen, from 1853 to 1865, Demonstrator of Anatomy.
William B. Towles, from 1872 to — Demonstrator of Anatomy.
James L. Cabell, from 1837 to 1849,
  Prof. of Anatomy, Physiology and Surgery,
J. Edgar Chancellor, from 1865 to 1872.
  Demonstrator of Anatomy.

School of Comparative Anatomy, Physiology and Surgery

James L. Cabell, from 1849 to —

School of Law

John T. Lomax, from 1826 to 1830.
John B. Minor, from 1845 to —
John A. G. Davis, from 1830 to 1840.
James P. Holcombe,
  From 1851 to 1854, Adjunct Professor.
  From 1854 to 1861, Professor.
Nathaniel P. Howard, from 1840 to 1841. (Pro Tem.)
Stephen O. Southall, from 1866 to —
Henry St. George Tucker, from 1841 to 1845.
School of Applied Engineering and Mathematics

Leopold J. Boeck, from 1867 to 1875.

School of Applied Chemistry

John W. Mallet, from 1867 to 1872.
Frank P. Dunnington, from 1872 to — Adjunct Professor.

School of Natural History and Agriculture

John R. Page, from 1872 to —

Assistant Instructors

School of Ancient Languages

John A. Broadus, from 1851 to 1853.
Edward S. Joynes, from 1853 to 1856.
James M. Boyd, from 1867 to 1868.
William Dinwiddie, from 1855 to 1856.
Henry Clay Brock, from 1870 to 1871.
Thomas U. Dudley, from 1860 to 1861.

School of Modern Languages

J. Herve, Tutor, from 1831 to 1833.
S. E. W. Becker, from 1853 to 1856.
Joseph Togno, Tutor, from 1840 to 1841.
Joseph Wall, from 1856 to 1857.
Gaetano Lanzo, from 1858 to 1861.
Paul Pioda, Tutor, from 1840 to 1841.
A. Von Fischerz, from 1857 to 1860.
William C. Grossman, from 1872 to 1873.
Ernest Volger, Asst. Instructor, from 1851 to 1853.
G. Baillard, from 1858 to 1859.
School of Mathematics

Francis H. Smith, from 1851 to 1853.
James G. Clark, from 1857 to 1858.
Alex. L. Neilson, from 1853 to 1854.
John M. Strother, from 1858 to 1861.
William Dinwiddie, from 1853 to 1855.
Howe P. Cochran, from 1859 to 1861.
Edward B. Smith, from 1855 to 1857.
Gaetano Lanza, Jr., from 1869 to 1871.
Robert T. Massie, from 1857 to 1857.
William M. Thornton, from 1871 to 1873.

School of Chemistry

David K. Tuttle, from 1858 to 1862.

School of Applied Mathematics

John W. C. Davis, from 1870 to 1872.
Albert Folke, from 1872 to 1874.
Henry Rose Carter, from 1874 to 1875.
IV. Pavilion I

1824-1842 John P. Emmet, Natural History
1843-1853 Edward H. Courtenay, Mathematics
1854-1860 Albert T. Bledsoe, Mathematics
1861-1876 Basil L. Gildersleeve, Greek
1876-1887 John R. Page, Natural History
1888-1913 Albert H. Tuttle, Biology
With regard to the plan and prospect of Education, I can safely say that the Virginia University will be ranked among the very first in this country. The Professors are all eminent in their departments and the Library now forming will be selected from the most valuable stock in Europe and America. ... My house will have to be open not only to the visits of Professors, but to all distinguished individuals who will be constantly arriving for the purpose of viewing the University; and I am determined to be in proper order. One room at least, my sanctum sanctorum, or Parlour, must have taste, and for this purpose I am willing to “bleed and die.”

—John P. Emmet to his sister, Jane E. Emmet, May 6th 1825

John Patton Emmet

(Dublin, Ireland, April 8, 1796 – New York City, August 15, 1841).
Education: United States Military Academy at West Point, 1814-1817; New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, M. D., 1822.

Born in Dublin, Ireland on April 8, 1796, son of Thomas Addis Emmet, the distinguished Irish patriot, John Patton Emmet immigrated to this country in 1804 where he attended a private school in Flatbush, Long Island. In 1814 he entered the United States Military Academy at West Point, and after graduation served as an assistant professor of mathematics, a position that he held until 1817, when he resigned owing to ill health. He spent the following year recovering in Naples, Italy, before he began to study medicine at the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he received a medical degree in 1822. Shortly thereafter, he set up his practice in Charleston, South Carolina. It was here that he gave a series of lectures on chemistry that became so immensely popular that Emmet’s name was brought to the attention of the University of Virginia’s founders.

Upon arriving at the University of Virginia in 1824, Professor Emmet felt himself in esteemed company; a company that warranted setting up his home in “proper order,” and his numerous requests for “fine stockings, black handkerchiefs and ... nankin Pantaloons,” as befitting a gentleman of his rising station. Not long after arriving in Charlottesville, in 1829 Professor Emmet took a wife—Mary Byrd Tucker, a niece of George Tucker, Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University. Despite Professor Emmet’s best efforts at
maintaining a household suitable for the esteemed company he anticipated, Mary Byrd felt it necessary to make some definitive changes to Pavilion I shortly after their marriage. As Professor of Natural History, Dr. Emmet had collected a fair number of live specimens of Virginia wildlife, which included numerous snakes that he kept in one of the largest and best rooms of the pavilion, remaining somewhat restricted in their movements due to highly polished waxed floors; an owl, that made his home in his master's bedroom on top of a high four-poster bed; and a brown bear, which having been raised from a cub, roamed at pleasure between the house and garden! Mary Byrd, born to a colonial family of great prominence in Bermuda, found this most unacceptable. The snakes were killed, the owl set free, and the bear found its way to the dinner table in the form of a “choice roast.” Despite this, the loving correspondence between husband and wife suggest this to have been a most happy marriage, and one that resulted in three children.

The Emmets continued to maintain their residence on the Lawn, however, from 1835 onwards they divided their time between Pavilion I and a considerable tract of land west of the University on which they erected a house known as “Morea.” Such a move may have in part been encouraged by the series of student riots, which began in 1825 with a brick being thrown at Professor Emmet under the cry of, “Down with the European Professors!” and continued throughout Dr. Emmet’s time at the university, as on the night of May 18th 1831 when Dr. Emmet’s attempts at breaking up a riot over the Uniform Law resulted in a shower of rocks directed at his and Professor John A. G. Davis’s advance.

With this in mind, the Emmet’s country residence at “Morea,” a building whose architecture Emmet designed largely under the inspiration of Jefferson’s Pavilions, was almost certainly a more peaceful family residence. The name having been derived from the Latin morus meaning mulberry tree, Dr. Emmet happily filled his days by conducting a number of horticultural and artistic experiments. He began a silkworm culture from his mulberry trees, harvested the greatest variety of flowers and fruit trees of which came the noted stock of apples and peaches still to be found in the neighborhood, and discovered a vein of local kaolin clay on his land, from which he experimented in pottery making. Dr. Emmet died surrounded by family after a prolonged illness on August 15, 1842 in New York City.
Writings

“A Description of a New Mode of Producing Electro-Magnetic Currents,” *Silliman’s Journal*, (1833).


“Iodide of Potassium as a Test for Arsenic,” *Silliman’s Journal*, (1830).


Note Books of John Patten Emmet, 1825-1841.

Papers of John Patten Emmet, 1842-1879.

Further Reading

Dunglison, Robley, et al. *Autobiographical Ana* (p. 139-476).

Emmet, Thomas Addis. *A Memoir of John Patten Emmet, M.D.: Formerly Professor of Chemistry and Materia Medica In the University of Virginia, with a Brief Outline of the Emmet Family History*, 1898.


Moran, Charles E. *Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for Whom the Dormitories at the University of Virginia*, 1978.


Tucker, George. *Memoir of the Life and Character of John P. Emmet, M. D., Professor of Chemistry and Materia in the University of Virginia*, 1845.
As a Professor he was a model. He was clear, concise, and luminous in his style and methods. Laborious in the preparation of his lectures, even to the minutest facts, he was at all times prepared to impart information. His manner as a teacher was highly attractive. He never, by look, word, or emphasis disparaged the efforts or undervalued the acquirements of his pupils. His pleasant smile and kind voice when he must say, 'Is that answer perfectly correct?' gave hope to many minds struggling with the difficulties of science, and have left the impression of affectionate reconciliation in many hearts.

--Professor Charles Davies, 1855

**Edward Henry Courtenay**

(Baltimore, Maryland, November 19, 1803 – Charlottesville, Virginia, December 21, 1853). Education: United States Military Academy at West Point, 1818-1821.

An unusually bright and dedicated student, at the age of fifteen Edward Courtenay became the youngest cadet to enroll at the United States Military Academy. He was predicted to finish first in his class from the beginning of his studies; an expectation that he met and excelled, completing the course with high honors in three years rather than the usual four. Upon graduation, Courtenay served as Assistant Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy for a year at his alma matter. He continued to rise in his profession, being appointed Assistant Professor of Engineering from 1822 to 1824.

From 1824 until 1826, Courtenay served as Assistant Engineer in the construction of Ft. Adams, Rhode Island, and finally as Assistant to the Chief Engineer at Washington, D.C. 1826-28. Returning to teaching, Courtenay taught at the Military Academy from 1828 to 1832, where he served as Acting Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy. He finally attained the status as full professor in 1828, before being called to the position of Professor of Mathematics, at the University of Pennsylvania in 1834. He was to teach at the University of Pennsylvania for only two years, before devoting himself entirely to civil engineering projects in the construction of Ft. Independence in Boston Harbor, as well as the Brooklyn Naval Yard’s dry dock.
Courtenay’s illustrious career as a civil engineer permanently came to an end in 1842, when he returned to his original pursuit of studying and imparting knowledge as Chair of Mathematics at the University of Virginia. This unexpected appointment was greatly appreciated by Courtenay, who continually felt pressured to provide for his expanding family. The position Courtenay filled became available after the tragic murder of Professor John A. G. Davis. Professor Courtenay accepted his new position with gratitude and hopes for instilling knowledge into the minds of the University’s students, which he did with great success that “exceeded … no man,” as remarked in a letter from one of his students writing home, who declared him to be “the most clear and explicit lecturer I have ever heard.” Courtenay was a fine lecturer, who devoted himself entirely to imparting the study of mathematics, a subject whose teaching load was his alone to bear at the University.

Courtenay’s unexpected death in 1853 came as a great shock to his colleagues and students alike. His principal scientific legacy, *Treatise on the Differential and Integral Calculus, and on the Calculus of Variations*, was largely complete at the time of his death. The work was published posthumously and ran through several editions over the next twenty years, becoming the most comprehensive volume on the subject.
Writings


Further Reading


Moran, Charles E. *Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for whom the Dormitories at the University of Virginia were Named*, 1978.
Shall we bury in the grave of the grandest cause that has ever perished on earth, all the little stores of history and philosophy which a not altogether idle life has enabled us to amass, and so leave the just cause merely because it is fallen to go without our humble advocacy? We would rather die.

–Albert Taylor Bledsoe, *Southern Review*, 1867

**Albert Taylor Bledsoe**

(Frankfort, Kentucky, November 9, 1909 – Alexandria, Virginia, December 8, 1877). Education: West Point Academy, 1830; Kenyon College, Ohio; 1834.

The son of Moses Ousley Bledsoe, the founder and editor of *Commonwealth*, and Sophia Childress Taylor, a relative of president Zachary Taylor, Albert Bledsoe graduated in 1830 from West Point, where he had been a fellow student of Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee. For a short period after his graduation, Bledsoe was stationed at Native American forts in the West, but he returned east to study law, theology, and philosophy in Kenyon College, Ohio. Upon graduating, he taught mathematics and French for a year, before being called to Miami University as Professor of Mathematics. The following year, he married Harriet Coxe of Burlington, New Jersey, and moved to Springfield, Illinois, where he practiced law in the same courts as Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas.

Bledsoe left the law for the professorship of mathematics at the University of Mississippi, a position that he held from 1848 until 1854, when he assumed the same position at the University of Virginia upon the death of Professor Edward H. Courtenay. While at Virginia, Bledsoe wrote *An Essay on Liberty and Slavery* (1856), which justified secession as a constitutional right and slavery as a moral right sanctioned by the Bible. Although a skilled mathematician, Bledsoe is best remembered for his stance on state’s rights and for his role as a leading Southern apologist. It is unsurprising given the nature of his 1856 publication, therefore, that he left the University of Virginia at the outbreak of the Civil War to serve as a colonel in the
Confederate Army, and later Assistant Secretary of War on account of his West Point training. President Davis came to the conclusion, however, that Bledsoe’s brain could be of more service than his arm, and for this reason he sent Bledsoe to London to investigate certain historical problems regarding the North and South, with the hopes of influencing English opinion.

When returning from England in February of 1865, Bledsoe published *Is Davis a Traitor, or Was Secession a Constitutional Right Previous to the War of 1861?*, from the material he had collected in London. This book defined the primary arguments in favor of Jefferson Davis and other Southern leaders, and it served as a mine of material for the lawyers defending Bledsoe’s former classmate. In 1867, Bledsoe became the founder and editor of the *Southern Review*, a publication that was dedicated to the “despised, disfranchised, and down-trodden people of the South.” In this effort he toiled unceasingly, despite the fact that the South was so poverty-stricken that he had to rely on his family and the salary of his daughters, who were schoolteachers, for financial support in order to continue.

Although Bledsoe never formally resumed a position in academia, he continued to voice his concerns for education in the South, espousing his belief that “we can no longer trust the mental and moral training of our sons and daughters to teachers and books imported from abroad,” a need that he felt should be met by a series of textbooks produced by the faculty of the University of Virginia. Formerly an Episcopalian priest, Bledsoe left the church over the issue of infant Baptism, and later, in 1871, was ordained a Methodist minister. Under the strain of financial burden, excessive work and disappointment at the changing world around him, Bledsoe died in Alexandria, Virginia in 1877.
Writings


A Theodicy, or Vindication of the Divine Theory, 1853.

Essay on Liberty and Slavery, 1856.

Is Davis a Traitor? Or Was Secession a Constitutional Right previous to the War of 1861?, 1866.

The Philosophy of Mathematics, with Special Reference to the Elements of Geometry and the Infinitesimal Method, 1868

The Southern Review, 1871

Further Reading


Freeman, Douglas Southall “The South to Posterity: An Introduction to the Writing of Confederate History” (1939).


I lost my pocket Homer, I lost my pistol, I lost one of my horses and, finally, I came very near losing my life.

–Basil Lanneau Gildersleeve

**Basil Lanneau Gildersleeve**

(Charleston, South Carolina, October 23, 1831 – Baltimore, Maryland, January 9, 1924). Education: Princeton University, B.A., M.A. 1849; University of Göttingen, Ph.D.

The son of an evangelical Presbyterian clergyman and teacher, Gildersleeve was educated at home during his youth and in the private school of W. E. Bailey in Charleston, before beginning study at the College of Charleston and later at Jefferson College, Pennsylvania. He eventually transferred to Princeton College, where he graduated before his eighteenth birthday in 1849. Before traveling abroad and studying at the universities of Berlin, Bonn and Göttingen, where he completed his Ph.D. in 1853, Gildersleeve taught classics at Dr. Socrates Maupin’s private school in Richmond, Virginia.

Upon returning to the United States, Gildersleeve continued to teach as a private tutor for two years, before his election as the University of Virginia’s first professor of Greek in 1856, following the separation of the professorship of ancient languages into two separate teaching positions for Latin and Greek. Gildersleeve was a stern man, who, “heavily bearded,” was recollected as having resembled the philological guild “the Olympian Zeus.” Gildersleeve firmly identified himself as “a Man of the Old South,” however, and when war broke out between the states in 1861, Gildersleeve divided his time between teaching during the academic year, and military service during the summers, returning to the university each fall for classes. On one such tour of duty, Gildersleeve was wounded in the knee; an injury that resulted in one leg being shorter than the other and a permanent limp because of this. As a result of his injury, Gildersleeve was taken to the house of Raleigh Colston, outside of Charlottesville, where he stayed for six months to recuperate. Thanking his host upon his recovery,
Gildersleeve promised to return to marry one of Colston’s three daughters, which he did in 1866, marrying Elizabeth Fisher Colston.

Gildersleeve never regretted his sacrifice, however, and proudly remarked later that he felt that “the right to teach Southern youth for nine months was earned by sharing the fortunes of their fathers and brothers at the front for three.”

In 1875, Gildersleeve left the University of Virginia for a position as one of the founding faculty members at Johns Hopkins University; where he remained until his death in 1924. Gildersleeve found scholastic opportunities in the thriving city of Baltimore that he may not have found in Charlottesville during the period; however, he remained tied to the University of Virginia for the remainder of his life. After the Rotunda fire of 1895, Gildersleeve appeared in his classroom at Johns Hopkins sans academic impedimenta, and with marked emotion said, “Gentlemen, I have just seen in the paper the calamity that has come to the institution where I taught for twenty years. There will be no lecture today.” Gildersleeve’s was the first letter of consolation received by the Director of the University, in which he enclosed a generous sum for the reconstruction of his beloved library.

Nearing the end of his life, Gildersleeve dedicated a poem to the University of Virginia:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{What fitting tribute can I pay to thee?} \\
\text{How much I love thee, let those years attest,} \\
\text{Those twenty years I loved thee with my best,} \\
\text{Poor best, but all that lay in me.} \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Twice twenty years I tilled another field –} \\
\text{Another? Nay. To me the two were one;} \\
\text{Love would not see the distance on the map} \\
\text{And bade me count whate’er I reaped thy yield;} \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{And now that all my work in life is done,} \\
\text{Dear Mother, let me sleep upon they lap.}
\end{align*}
\]
When expressing his wish to be buried at the University of Virginia’s Cemetery, he jestingly explained, “You see I was buried there before,” nevertheless he remarked on his time at the university with affection and gratitude.

Writing

American Journal of Philology, 1880.

An Addresss Delivered before the American Whig and Cilosophic Societies of the College of New Jersey, at Princeton, June 20, 1877, 1877.

Essays and Studies, 1890.

Latin Grammar, 1867, rev. 1872.

Our Southern Colleges, 1869.


The Creed of the Old South, 1864-1915, 1915.

Further Reading


Moran, Charles E. *Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for Whom the Dormitories at the University of Virginia*, 1978.

The writer of this article has been a practitioner of medicine and surgery for over forty years. He has no desire to give gratuitous advice to any one, but simply in charity to state the result of his observation and experience on himself a sufferer, as well as in cases of others afflicted like himself and benefited by a sojourn in this valley and the use of the hot and healing waters. The writer was for three seasons, or summers—1881, 1882 and 1883—the assistant resident physician at the Hot Springs to the late Professor James L. Cabell, M.D. of the University of Virginia, his former pupil, and at the time his colleague in the faculty of that institution.

—John Randolph Page

John Randolph Page

(1830—Charlottesville, Virginia, March 11, 1901)

Education, University of Virginia, M.D., 1830.

Following his medical training, Page was chief surgeon to the Confederate service and afterward professor at the Louisiana Military Academy, and at the Washington Medical College at Baltimore.

In 1873, Page became professor of natural history at the University of Virginia, where he taught chemistry and scientific farming. Among Page’s many interests in medicine and natural history, Page was deeply interested in the healing affects of the hot springs of Albemarle County. He researched and wrote on the subjects of animal husbandry, farming and the treatment of diseases. While at the University, Page was also responsible for the management of the Experimental Farm, where he conducted experiments in wheat culture, corn and different fertilization methods.

Page retired from teaching in 1887, to resume his profession as a medical practitioner. He remained in Charlottesville until his death at the age of seventy—one of Bright’s disease.
Writings

The History, Symptoms, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Glanders and Farcy In Horses, 1876.

Report of Experiments In Wheat Culture On the Experimental Farm of the University of Virginia, 1877, 1877.

Report of Experiments with Corn and Different Fertilizing Materials On the Experimental Farm of the University During the Season of 1886, 1886.

Report of Experiments with Corn, Wheat and Grasses, On the Experimental Farm of the University of Virginia, 1884-1885, 1886.

Concerning Hot Springs of Virginia, 1894.

The Principles of Breeding and Rearing Domestic Animals, 1896.

Further Reading


… One does not feel that he is a “Yankee” or a “Northerner” but a genuine old Virginian. I think you would all like him exceedingly. He is about 40 years old — I finalize, and a man of vigorous health; a short, stout fellow — not big-bellied, but round from crown to toe! And bald-headed! I like to look at his head; it is one of the best-formed craniums I ever saw …

—Letter of Recommendation by Charles S. Venable, 1888

**Albert Henry Tuttle**

(Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County, Ohio, November 19, 1844 – Died: ?). Education: State College of Pennsylvania, B.S., M.S.; Harvard University; Johns Hopkins University.

Born in Ohio to Henry Blakeslee Tuttle, a successful merchant, Albert H. Tuttle began his education at the Cleveland Institute before transferring to the State College of Pennsylvania, from which he left with a Master’s, before continuing postgraduate study at Harvard and Johns Hopkins. He began his teaching career as a teacher of natural science at the State Normal School in Plattsville, Wisconsin, where he taught for two years, before assuming an instructorship of microscopy at Harvard College. A man of many scholastic interests, Tuttle then became professor of zoology and geology at his alma matter, the State College of Pennsylvania, before returning to Ohio where he served as the chair of zoology and comparative anatomy at Ohio State University from 1873 to 1888.

Although a highly distinguished man by the time of his appointment at the University, the numerous letters or recommendation sent on his behalf attest to the difficulty Tuttle faced in his aspiration to the professorship of biology at the University of Virginia. Any hesitation towards his appointment almost certainly resided with the fact that he was born and raised north of the Mason-Dixon line, descending from old Connecticut families on both sides, and most especially, on the basis of his service in the Civil War in the Eighth Battery of the Ohio National Guard. Tuttle continued to serve his country after the war, however, and was a member of the Board of Commissioners for Ohio in
the International Exposition at Vienna, and in 1884, was Assistant Commissioner for the State of Ohio in the Department of Education at the New Orleans Exposition.

Tuttle identified himself as an Independent Republican; and he held progressive views towards women in education and he signed a petition to promote their cause before the Board of Visitors in 1894. He adjusted quite well to life on the Lawn, however, as numerous portraits of himself and his wife, Miss Kate Austin Seely, whom he married in Paris in 1873, and their three children attest.

Writings

“Introduction the Study of Bacteria,” (1895).

“Elements of Histology,”(1898).

Papers of Albert H. Tuttle, 1864-1926.

Further Reading


Moran, Charles E. Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for whom the Dormitories at the University of Virginia were Named, 1978.
## V. Pavilion II

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<th>Period</th>
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<td>Medicine</td>
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I recollect that he had charge of the almshouse, which was two miles out from the college, and we delighted to follow him there for his clinical instruction. He had at that time recently returned from Paris, and was full of Laennec’s [Laennec’s] investigation of tuberculosis, also of Bichart’s [Bichat’s] pathological anatomy. On one occasion he marked with chalk on the chest of a poor man dying of typhoid fever the exact site of an abscess caused by the breaking down of tubercles ... postmortem examination showed the cicatrix in the lungs precisely as Dr. Johnson had indicated.

—Pupil of Thomas Johnson

**Thomas Johnson**

Thomas Johnson was demonstrator of anatomy at the University of Virginia from 1832 until 1834 under the direction of Professor Robley Dunglison, who otherwise led the department of medicine single-handedly. In July of 1831, Professor Johnson was promoted to the position of Professor of Anatomy; providing much-needed teaching relief to Professor Dunglison who was at that time educating thirty-eight of the University’s one hundred and fifty-eight undergraduates. Johnson only held this position, however, for two years, resigning in 1834 over frustration over a request for a raise to his salary, which the Board of Visitors rejected.

Johnson then removed to Richmond, where four years later in 1838 he became instrumental in the founding of the Richmond College of Physicians alongside former University of Virginia professor Augustus Warner, who had replaced him at the University.

Johnson was only to hold the position of Chair of Anatomy at the Richmond College of Physicians for a short time, however. In 1844, unknown charges were preferred against him and he was forced to resign. Not much is known of Johnson’s life after this point, however, we do know that by 1846, he was living at 38 West Main Street in Richmond, and working alongside a younger physician, a Dr. William H. Taylor who reported in 1856 that:
I knew Dr. Johnson soon after I graduated. I invited him to share my office, hoping through this association to be improved by his knowledge and experience. I gained experience, no doubt, but lost all my patients, everybody who applied choosing the old doctor in preference of the new.

Further Reading


Jordan, Harvey Ernest. *History of the University of Virginia School of Medicine.*

Morton, Charles Bruce. *History of the Department of Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1824-1971.* Charlottesville: Division of Medical Art and Photography, University of Virginia Medical Center, 1973.
My heart seemed to pause, my breathing to rest, then after deep inspiration I felt I had passed through a transporting dream.

–Student description of Warner’s lecture

**Augustus Lockman Warner**

(Baltimore, Maryland, December 20, 1807 – Richmond, Virginia, May 6, 1847)

Education: Princeton University, Master’s, 1829; University of Maryland, M.D., 1829.

Little is known of Augustus Warner’s early life, but he likely received excellent preparatory instruction in Baltimore before entering in Princeton in 1824, because he was admitted to the sophomore class. While at Princeton, Warner joined the American Cliosophic Society in 1826, and graduated in 1829 with his Master’s, an honor ordinarily conferred on Princeton graduates three years after graduation after devoting considerable time to literary or professional study.

In 1827, Warner entered the Medical Department at the University of Maryland, where he graduated in 1829. For four years after graduation, Warner was busy working in leading a series of lectures, both at the Medical Institute of Baltimore, as well as a private dissecting hall in Cider Alley. In 1832, Warner’s lectures were interrupted by an immense cholera epidemic that struck the entire state of Maryland, prompting Warner and his colleagues Drs. George B. Mackenzie and John Carrere to begin a cholera hospital funded by the city of Baltimore.

When Thomas Johnson had resigned from teaching at the University of Virginia two years later, Warner’s name had established such acclaim that he was unanimously appointed as Professor of Anatomy and Surgery at the University of Virginia. The medical department at the University of Virginia was only eight years old at this time, but it had already developed a reputation amongst its sister institutions for the strength of its ten month curriculum and superior instruction.
Warner found at the University a medical department vastly smaller than that of the University of Maryland, whose thirty students seemed small compared to the three hundred and fifty students. He taught alongside two other professors besides himself, Professor John P. Emmet, who taught chemistry, pharmacy and materia medica, and Professor Alfred T. Magill, who succeeded Professor Robley Dunglison as Professor of Medicine, a chair which included pathology, obstetrics and medical jurisprudence. Upon joining the faculty at the University of Virginia, Warner declared he “would lecture from as well as on the subject.”

Disappointed and embarrassed by the lack of materials for dissection, Warner would only remain at the University of Virginia for three years, after repeated proposals to move the University’s medical department to the state capital in Richmond. Such a proposal was supported by Warner’s colleague Professor Magill, however, it was fervently opposed by Professor Emmet and the Board of Visitors. Tired of organizing groups of students for systematic body snatching, Warner resigned in 1837 over this and other clinical disadvantages.

In 1830, before moving to Charlottesville, Warner had married Eliza Jane Ludlam of Richmond, which may have been one of motivating factor for their move to Richmond following his resignation from the University of Virginia. Losing no time, Warner worked alongside John Cullen, L. W Chamberlayne, Robert Munford, former University of Virginia faculty member Thomas Johnson, and future faculty member Socrates Maupin, in the founding of a fully fledged medical school in Richmond under the charter of Hampden-Sidney College in the fall of 1838.

Warner assumed the professorship of surgery and surgical anatomy, and served as dean of faculty at the newly founded Medical College of Virginia, where he served until his premature death at the age of thirty-nine in 1848, just ten years after arriving in Richmond. Warner died of what may have been acute appendicitis, reportedly asking to
a fellow physician who was with him up until the time of death to hand him a mirror, at which he held it to see his abdomen and declared, “It’s all up with me.”

Upon his death, students at the Medical College of Virginia wore a badge of mourning for three months. He was buried in Baltimore near his father and mother.

Writings

“Illustrations of the Elementary Forms of Disease,” *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, 1835

“On the Distribution of the splenic in the spleen of ox and sheep,” *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, 1835

**Further Reading**


*Catalogue of the medical department of Hampden Sidney College, 1839.*


Jordan, Harvey Ernest. *History of the University of Virginia School of Medicine.*

Morton, Charles Bruce. *History of the Department of Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1824-1971.* Charlottesville: Division of Medical Art and Photography, University of Virginia Medical Center, 1973.
A luminous star in the constellation of eminent physicians and scholars has been extinguished.

– George Tucker Harrison, *Memorial Sketch of James Lawrence Cabell*

**JAMES LAWRENCE CABELL**

(Nelson County, Virginia, August 26, 1813 – Albemarle County, Virginia, August 13, 1889). Education: University of Virginia, B.A., M.A. 1833; University of Maryland, M.D. 1834; Hampden-Sidney Collage, L.L.D.

The son of a physician, Cabell’s career as a physician fell into a long line of medical professionals, which began with the family’s founder, his great-grandfather William Cabell, who was born in Wiltshire, England and is said to have been a surgeon in the Royal Navy. Upon settling in Virginia, William Cabell acquired extensive holdings of land and practiced medicine until his death in 1774. Cabell was also the nephew of Joseph C. Cabell, a man once described by General Dade in the Senate of Virginia to be “second only to the immortal Jefferson,” in securing the “pride and glory of Virginia.”

Cabell maintained a broad range of interests, among which included a genuine interest in English literature, having matriculated at the University of Virginia in the literary department. After completing his medical training at the University of Maryland, and studying in both Philadelphia and Paris, Cabell was appointed as Professor of Anatomy, Physiology and Surgery at his alma matter in 1837. He filled this chair for many years, and it was through his influence that a new school was created in 1856, that of Anatomy and Materia Medica. In addition to physiology and surgery, Dr. Cabell added the branch of comparative anatomy as a subject to the new school.

A few years later, at the outbreak of the Civil War, Cabell was chief surgeon of the Confederate hospitals in Charlottesville. After the war, Cabell continued his public
service in the medical field as president of the Medical Society of Virginia in 1876 and of the National Board of Health, 1879-84. A chief advocate of the public health movement, he also served for one year as president of the American Public Health Association.

Cabell remained almost as well versed in philosophy and pure science as medicine, and in 1846 was a candidate to succeed George Tucker as professor of moral philosophy. He wrote very little, devoting most of his time to education, however, his one book, *The Testimony of Modern Science to the Unity of Mankind* was pioneering for its time, demonstrating that all different races descend from a common ancestor, thus demonstrating in his mind the truth of the Biblical account of creation.

When Cabell passed away shortly after his retirement in 1889, he was the oldest member of the faculty both in years and service. On his fiftieth year of service, his achievements were honored by the University by a solid gold cup appropriately engraved, accompanied by an address on vellum. He was preceded in death in 1874 by Margaret Gibbons, whom he married two years after his appointment at the University. The couple adopted two daughters, whose married names are recorded as Mrs. E.B. Smith and Mrs. Auchincloss.

**Writings**

*The Testimony of Modern Science to the Unity of Mankind*, New York: 1858, 2nd ed. 1859.

**Further Reading**


Harrison, George Tucker. *Memorial Sketch of James Lawrence Cabell: Late Professor of Physiology and of Surgery in the University of Virginia*, 1889.

William Cecil Dabney

(Charlottesville, Virginia, July 4, 1849 – Charlottesville, Virginia, August 20, 1894). Education: University of Virginia, M.D. 1868.

Dabney was a lifelong Charlottesvillian. Born in 1849, he graduated from the University in 1868 whereupon he opened his own practice in his native county. Shortly after graduation, Dabney married Jane Bell Minor on March 16, 1869, the daughter of William W. Minor, Sr., of Albemarle County.

Following James F. Harrison’s resignation from the chair of medicine in 1886, Dabney was appointed to the vacancy. He was a distinguished authority on several subjects in the medical field and published avidly. Dabney continued as Professor of Medicine at the University of Virginia teaching medicine, obstetrics, and medical jurisprudence until his death in 1894 of typhoid fever.

Writings

An Abstract of a Course of Lectures On the Practice of Medicine, 1891.

The Value of Chemistry to the Medical Practitioner: a Dissertation to Which Was Awarded the Boylston Prize, June 5th, 1873, 1873.

Further Reading


VI. PAVILION III

1826-1831  JOHN T. LOMAX, LAW
1831-1833  JOHN A. G. DAVIS, LAW
1833-1837  ALFRED T. MAGILL, MEDICINE
1837-1839  ROBERT E. GRIFFITH, MEDICINE
1839-1865  HENRY HOWARD, MEDICINE
1865-1867  WILLIAM E. PETERS, LATIN
1867-1876  JAMES F. HARRISON, MEDICINE
1876-1882  WILLIAM C. DABNEY, MEDICINE *
1882-1897  JAMES M. GARNETT

* For William C. Dabney, see Pavilion II, where he resided from 1890-1894.
From the same & from other sources, I have understood that Mr. Lomax is of amicable dispositions, of polished manners; and of the best habits of every sort, and that he has been a firm & sound patriot. He is the age of about forty.

—James Madison to Thomas Jefferson, Montpellier, August 4, 1825

**John Tayloe Lomax**

(Caroline County, Virginia, January 19, 1791 - Fredericksburg, Virginia, October 1, 1862). Education: St. John’s College, B.A., LL.D.

After many failed attempts at securing a law professor for the University of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson extended the professorship to John Tayloe Lomax, a native Virginian who continued his illustrious career in law after serving as the University’s first law professor as an esteemed judge in the state of Virginia. Under the recommendation of Mr. Wirt, whom Jefferson had first extended the professorship, Lomax corresponded with Jefferson, visiting him at Monticello shortly before Jefferson’s death. Jefferson left this world fully confident that the young lawyer, whose opinions and background matched his own, would do well to teach the subject of law at the University.

Educated at St. John’s College, Lomax had established himself in the legal field by the time his name was brought before Jefferson, operating his own legal practice in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Prior to this, Lomax was removed in 1810 from Fredericksburg where he practiced in the Chancery courts, to serve as an officer during the War of 1812 in a regiment raised in the lower counties of the Northern Neck of the Chesapeake Bay. Returning to Fredericksburg, he obtained imminence at the bar.

Lomax was a most able lecturer, and was passionate about educating his students to treat the law with respect and dignity. He was a popular lecturer during his professorship, and his interest in his students never failed to attach them to him. As the only native-born American, Lomax served as Chairman of Faculty during his time at the University until his resignation in 1830. It was with regret that he resigned his
position, a decision motivated by financial reasons, to accept a position as Judge to the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery. Assigned to the Third District and Fifth Circuit, composed of the counties of Spottsylvania, Caroline, King George, Westmoreland, Richmond, Lancaster and Northumberland, Lomax was said to hold “the scales of justice truly poised.”

Despite a recent addendum to the constitution of 1851, which imposed a maximum age restriction of 70 years of age to all judges, Lomax, then 70, remained so popular that the bar of his circuit requested this restriction to be uplifted. He continued to serve until the age of 76, at which time he resigned to care for his wife in 1857. He died five years later in Fredericksburg.

Writings

A Treatise on the Law of Executors and Administrators, Generally in use in the United States and Adapted More Particularly to the Practice of Virginia, 1841.


Further Reading


Dunglison, Robley, et al. Autobiographical Ana (p. 139-476).

A Short Sketch of the Life of the Late Judge John Tayloe Lomax, of Virginia, 1870.


The presiding officer of the Institution has been murdered, neither the excellence of his mind nor the goodness of his heart could save him, his learning as a Professor, his usefulness as an officer, his kindness as a friend to every student, his blandness of manner and his gentlemanly deportment could not shield Mr. Davis from the hand of violence, those who were acquainted with his many excellencies can by no means apportunate [sic] the loss.

John A. Washington, University of Virginia, November 20th, 1840

John Anthony Gardner Davis

(Middlesex County, Virginia, March 1802 – Charlottesville, November 14, 1840).  
Education: William and Mary College, 1820.

Born to a prosperous family in Middlesex County, Virginia, John A. G. Davis’ curiosity and love of learning was encouraged during his pleasant childhood, where, romping over the grounds of “Prospect Hill,” he had the freedom to fish, dig oysters and cultivate his many interests. At an early age as a student at William and Mary, Davis had already caught the attention of his superiors, attracting the compliments of the University’s president, who remarked that Davis was “likely to be the most distinguished man of his time in Virginia.”

In the spring of 1824, Davis embarked on a journey that would take him through West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, but he found no town to his liking. Stopping in Albemarle County, to visit his wife Mary Jane’s relatives at “Carrsbrook,” Davis was impressed with the region’s potential for future development and the condition of the local bar. A short time later, he purchased over a thousand acres and resolved to attend lectures at the University. Not long thereafter, Davis had begun his own legal practice in Charlottesville, that was of such significance that in 1830, following the resignation of John Tayloe Lomax, Davis was appointed as the university’s second professor of law.
As a lawyer and publisher, Davis epitomized the Albemarle agrarian ideal, and in 1828 Davis began construction of a brick frame house that largely resembled the pavilion residences at the University that he would soon after divide his time between. An excellent example of Neo-classical architecture, “The Farm,” as it was often referred to, exhibited many elements inspired by Jefferson’s designs such as columned entrance porticos, triple-hung windows, and Chinese Chippendale railings. Even upon his appointment at the university, Davis daily visited the farm, and made time for an immense variety of employments, which included an active involvement in Temperance Reformation.

First serving as Secretary to the Board of Visitors, when Davis was appointed Professor of Law at the University of Virginia, many people expressed their horror at the Board’s decision, proclaiming him “too young” and “too little known.” Davis’s tenure at the University, however, would prove him to be every bit as competent as his predecessor, being both popular with the student body, an excellent lecturer, and the author of a large amount of legal writing. As one law student, A. L. Pickens wrote to his father in 1839:

“I am so much pleased with our professor, Mr. Davis. He seems to be well qualified for the station which he fills – is polite and affable to his class, yet with sufficient promptitude and firmness, to show that he is not to be trifled with. As far as I have had intelligence, he is much liked and is, I believe, generally considered the best professor here.”

Sadly, Davis’ popularity with the student body could not save him from the tragedy that took his life in November of 1840. Hearing the gunshots of two masked students on the lawn, Davis awoke from his pavilion residence, entering the lawn under the auspices of his role as Chairman of the Faculty to put the rioters to rest. One of the students turned about and ran away upon seeing Davis, but the other stood his ground, and when Davis approached him to remove his mask, he shot and fatally wounded Professor Davis. Days passed, and when it was believed that the rioter had escaped, Davis remarked, “I am glad of it!—I am glad of it,” every feeling of revenge or
resentment—even his love of public justice, had been dissolved in the compassi
and forgiveness that so endeared him to his students.

Davis met his untimely death three days later surrounded by concerned family and friends in his pavilion residence. He was succeeded by his wife, three sons and three daughters. One of his sons, John Staige Davis, would eventually follow in his footsteps as Professor of Medicine at the University.

**Writings**

* A Lecture On the Constitutionality of Protecting Duties: Delivered In the University of Virginia, 1832.

* An Exposition of the Principles Which Distinguish Estates Tail From Other Limitations, 1837.

* A Treatise On Criminal Law: with an Exposition of the Office and Authority of Justices of the Peace In Virginia; Including Forms of Practice, 1838.
Further Reading


Dunglison, Robley, et al. Autobiographical Ana (p. 139-476).

Loth, Calder, and Frederick Doveton Nichols. The Farm Or the John A.G. Davis House Charlottesville, Virginia. 1965.

Martin, Lewis Ashby. John A. G. Davis, Professor of Law, and the Faculty of the University of Virginia, 1830-1840. Charlottesville, Va., 1974.


Shahien, Amir. Pavilion Residents At the University of Virginia, a Collection of Biographical Sketches and Social Excerpts.

I was told some time ago by a medical student of Philadelphia that the medical school of your university school almost invariably graduated in Philadelphia the second year at the head of their classes.

–Robert Conrad to Alfred T. Magill, 1833

Alfred Thurston Magill
( Winchester, Virginia, December 10, 1804 – Winchester, Virginia, June 12, 1837)
Education: University of Pennsylvania, M.D.

Alfred Magill’s father-in-law was Henry St. George Tucker, who later became Professor of Law at the University of Virginia, replacing John A. G. Davis. Many years before this, however, Tucker had organized a law school in Winchester, Virginia, which may have inspired Magill to open a medical school also in Winchester. This enterprise proved to be very short-lived, however, and closed its doors in 1829.

After the closure of the medical school at Winchester, Magill taught medicine at Jefferson College for four years, and became the author of a prize-winning essay on Typhus fever. It was largely because of the success of this essay that Magill was asked to succeed Robley Dunglison in 1833, as professor of medicine and therapeutics, despite his youth. Magill’s excellent teaching abilities became well known across grounds, and only furthered the medical school’s reputation at this early date.

While at the University, Magill and his colleague Augustus Warner became frustrated by the lack of clinical advantages offered at the University. Because of this, Magill proposed a motion to move the medical school to Richmond, which Warner seconded. Jefferson himself had been well aware of the handicap placed on the medical program by its remote location, and he had at one time entertained the idea of moving the campus to Norfolk to better facilitate clinical study. This motion was first proposed in
1834, and again in 1837, failing both times. Still agitated, Warner chose to resign and move to Richmond.

Magill, on the other hand, asked to be relinquished of his chair for an entirely different set of reasons. Unfortunately, after only four years of teaching at the University, Magill became very ill with a disease that was to take his life that same year, at the young age of thirty-three.

Writings

An Essay On the History, Causes, and Treatment of Typhus Fever : to Which the Annual Prize for the Year 1829 Was Awarded by the Medical Society of the State of New York, 1834.

Three Lectures of the Origin and Properties of Malaria Or Marsh Miasma: with the Best Means of Preventing Its Formation and of Obviating Its Effects On the Human Constitution, When This Cannot Be Done. Delivered to the Medical Class of the University of Virginia, 1829, rev. 1834.

Further Reading


Davis, John Staige. The Medical Department of the University of Virginia : Its Proposed Removal—a Bit of History. Charlottesville, Va.: The University, 1922.
Robert Eglesfield Griffith

Education: University of Pennsylvania, M.D., 1820.

Born in Philadelphia and educated at the University of Pennsylvania, Griffith began the practice of his profession in his native city, where he served as physician to the Philadelphia Board of Health in 1834-36, until his appointment to the chair of material medica at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. Here he served for two years, before being called to the University of Virginia, where he replaced Alfred Magill as Professor of Medicine. Ill health prevented Dr. Griffith from serving long at the University, forcing him to resign in 1839.

In addition to his interests in medicine, Griffith acquired some eminence as a naturalist, particularly in the branches of botany, and he had a fine collection of shells, which he bequeathed to the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, where he was a long-time member, and eventually president from 1849 until his death in 1850.

Writings

A Universal Formulary: Containing the Methods of Preparing and Administering Officinal and Other Medicines: The Whole Adapted to Physicians and Pharmacists, 1850.

Medical Botany; Or, Descriptions of the More Important Plants Used In Medicine: with Their History, Properties, and Mode of Administration, 1848.

Further Reading


This community never had any citizen more universally esteemed and respected.”

–Charlottesville Chronicle, 1867

**HENRY HOWARD**

(Frederick County, Maryland, 1791 – Charlottesville, Virginia, 1874)

Education: University of Pennsylvania, M.D.

A native of Frederick County, Maryland, Howard received his medical training at the University of Pennsylvania, before returning to Maryland where he practiced medicine for twenty-four years in Montgomery County. Prior to coming to the University of Virginia, Howard taught medicine for two years at the University of Maryland, then in Baltimore.

Replacing Professor Robert E. Griffith in 1839, Howard taught medicine, physiology, obstetrics, and medical jurisprudence at the University of Virginia. Dr. Howard did not play quite as significant of a role as Dr. James L. Cabell and John Staige Davis, however, Howard is recorded as having nursed a prisoner of war. He also remained dedicated to his teaching, only missing two faculty members during the entire war.

In 1867, however Howard retired from teaching at the University to assume a position as president of Charlottesville’s Citizen’s National Bank. Upon his resignation, Howard’s “faithful services to the University through alternate periods of depression and prosperity,” was acknowledged and praised.

Howard had two daughters with his first wife Eliza, who died in the early 1840s, and a census from the 1850s has him recorded as married to a second wife, Laura, as well as the owner of three slaves. Twenty years later, the census of 1870 records Howard’s
occupation as being that of banker, and his net worth as being the extraordinary $82,000.

In 1872, Howard was elected to the vestry at Christ Church in Charlottesville. He died in 1874, survived by his second wife Laura.

Writings

A Synopsis of Medical Jurisprudence, From the Latest and Best Authorities: Forming the Basis of Lectures On the Science, 4\textsuperscript{th} ed., 1849.

Journal of Henry Howard.

Outlines of Medical Jurisprudence: Intended to Promote the Studies of the Medical and Law Students Who Attend His Lectures. 3rd ed., 1845.

Further Reading


Davis, John Staige. The Medical Department of the University of Virginia : Its Proposed Removal--a Bit of History. Charlottesville, Va.: The University, 1922.

Morton, Charles Bruce. History of the Department of Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1824-1971. Charlottesville: Division of Medical Art and Photography, University of Virginia Medical Center, 1973
WILLIAM ELISHA PETERS


After only two years of postgraduate study at the University of Virginia, Peters was offered the professorship of Greek and Latin at his alma matter of Emory and Henry College in 1852. He continued there until 1861, where, upon Virginia’s secession, Professor Peters enlisted as a private in the Confederate Army. During his service, Peters was promoted to the ranks of Colonel, and was wounded three times, twice seriously.

His moral character was well known to his contemporaries, and it is his refusal to burn Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, that defines his participation in the war. His reason was simple: he had not enlisted to fight women and children. Other officers outranking him did execute Lee’s command. However, Peters was not court-martialed for his refusal.

In 1866, Peters was asked to join the faculty at the University of Virginia, replacing Lewis M. Coleman as Professor of Latin. During the war, Basil Gildersleeve, a professor of Greek, had taught both languages in the School of Ancient Languages, and was therefore quite relieved to have Peters’ assistance. Peters expected strict accuracy from his students, but his earnestness and deep personal interest in his students earned him the title “Old Pete.”

In 1858, Peters married Margaret Sheffey of Marion, Virginia; and later, upon her death, married her sister Mary. He served as a chair of Latin for thirty-six years, resigning voluntarily in 1902, four years before his death in 1906. He was survived by his second wife and three children.
Writings

Latin Classes and the University of Virginia., 1897.

Syntax of the Latin Verb, 1898.

William E. Peters Papers.

Further Reading

History, Influence, Equipment and Characteristics, with Biographical Sketches and

Clemons, Harry, and Edgar Finley Shannon. Notes On the Professors for Whom the
University of Virginia Halls and Residence Houses Are Named. Charlottesville:
University of Virginia Press, 1961.

rev. 2006.

Moran, Charles E. Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for whom the Dormitories at
the University of Virginia were Named, 1978.

Shahien, Amir. Pavilion Residents At the University of Virginia, a Collection of Biographical
Sketches and Social Excerpts.
James Francis Harrison

(? – Prince William County, Virginia, 1896).

Education:

In 1867, James Harrison joined the faculty at the University of Virginia as Professor of Medicine, succeeding Henry Howard. Never regarded by his students to the be most learned of their triumvirate, Harrison’s experience in the medical field was acquired through his service as surgeon in the United States, and later, Confederate navies, where he gained a rounded experience in general practice. It was perhaps due to his military career, where positive command and discipline were prized, that Harrison was abrupt in speech, outspoken and minced neither word nor sentiment.

He taught for many years before succeeding Professor Charles Venable as Chairman in July of 1873. He was always very accessible to his students, and because of this was an excellent Chairman and chair. He was never a favorite among students, but he was well-respected and liked and occasionally could be heard by the familiar name “Old Harry.” He was succeeded by his wife, daughter, who did the honors of the home, and a son, who like his father became a professor in a medical department at a Southern university.
Writings

The Education of Southern Youth, 1876.

Further Reading


This proclamation (of President Lincoln) created quite a sensation at the University, raising the military enthusiasm to the highest pitch, and especially filling our two companies, the “Southern Guard,” Captain E. S. Hutter, and the “Sons of Liberty,” Captain J. Tosh, with an earnest desire to lend a hand in the defense of our state. The taking of Harper’s Ferry, where there was a United States armory, was the first object that presented itself to our minds, and when on Wednesday captain [R. T. W.] Duke returned from Richmond with authority to take three hundred men to Harper’s Ferry, our two companies—with the “Albemarle Rifles,” Captain Duke, and the “Monticello Guard,” Captain Mallory, from Charlottesville—offered our services.

–James Mercer Garnett, Personal Recollections of the University of Virginia at the Outbreak of the War of 1861-65

**JAMES MERCER GARNETT**

(Loudon County, Virginia, April 24, 1840 – Baltimore, February 18, 1916). Education: University of Virginia, M.A., 1859.

The son of a civil engineer, James Mercer Garnett had a rather nomadic childhood, before attending the Episcopal High School near Alexandria. Following his preparatory studies, Garnett entered the University of Virginia where he further proved his brilliance as a student, taking his Master’s degree at the age of nineteen. While a student at the University, Garnett was actively engaged in extracurricular activities, among which including being involved in the founding of what is said to have been the first Young Men’s Christian Association associated with the University.

After teaching for a year after graduation, Garnett returned to the University and joined the University’s “Southern Guard,” one of the University’s two military companies (the other being the “Sons of Liberty”). Following this, Garnett enlisted as a private in the Rockbridge Artillery of “Stonewall” Jackson’s brigade in July of 1861. When paroled at Appomattox, after fighting throughout the war,
he was captain of artillery and ordnance officer of Grime’s division, II Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, an experience that is chronicled in his diary published in 1899. His experiences during the Civil War are also detailed in his fascinating *Personal Recollections of the University of Virginia at the Outbreak of the War of 1861-65*.

Garnett resumed teaching after the war, and in 1869-70 spent a year in Germany at the Universities of Berlin and Leipzig where he studied classical philology. Returning to the Untied States, Garnett was chosen as president of St. John’s College, Annapolis, an office that he held alongside his appointment as professor of history and English language and literature until 1880. At which time, he resigned and taught for two years at a school of his own in Ellicott City, Maryland.

In 1882, the chair of History and Literature was divided, with George F. Holmes continuing as Professor of History. At this time, Garnett was appointed Professor of English Language and Literature. Garnett taught at the University in this position until 1893, when the English teaching position was divided between two separate chairs of language and literature, with Garnett being appointed as professor of English language. Garnett continued to teach in this capacity for just three years, at which time he resigned and moved to Baltimore, where he filled a vacancy in the chair of English literature at the Women’s (now Goucher) College.

After this, Garnett resigned from teaching entirely, completely dedicating himself to private teaching, writing, and the affairs of the Episcopal Church.
In 1871, Garnett married Kate Huntington Noland of Middleburg, Loudon, County, Virginia, with whom he had a son, James Mercer Garnett, Jr., who went on to become a lawyer. Garnett died in Baltimore in 1916.

**Writings**

*The Course In English and Its Value As a Discipline*, 1886.

*The Elective System of the University of Virginia*, 1886.


*Selections of English Prose from Elizabeth to Victoria*, 1891.

*Early Revolutionary History of Virginia, 1773-1774. : The Committee of Correspondence and the Call for the First Congress. : A Paper Read Before the Virginia Historical Society, Monday, December 21, 1891*, 1892.

*The Significance of the B.a. Degree*, 1892.

*Why the Revised Version Should Be "appointed to Be Read In Churches,”* 1892.

*Hayne’s Speech, to which Webster Replied*, 1894.

*A Literary History of the English People*, 1897.

*Macbeth*, 1897.

*Sundry Recent Works In English Philology*, 1899.

*The Last Fifteen Years of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, 1761-1776*, 1910.

*Biographical Sketch of Charles Fenton Mercer, 1778-1858: M. C. 1817-1840, of Aldie, Loudoun County, Virginia*, 1911.
Further Reading


Garnett, James Mercer. Diary of Captain James M. Garnett, Ordnance Officer Rodes's Division, 2d Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. From August 5th to November 30th, 1864, Covering Part of General Early's Campaign In the Shenandoah Valley, 1899.


James Mercer Garnett Papers.
## VII. Pavilion IV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1825-1840</td>
<td>George Blaettermann</td>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841-1844</td>
<td>Charles Kraitsir</td>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1844-1895</td>
<td>Maximilian Schele de Vere</td>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895-1904</td>
<td>Charles W. Kent</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mr. Blaetterman has the double distinction of having been the first scholar to be hired for the faculty of the University of Virginia and of being the first to leave under pressure of the University’s extreme disapproval. The very considerable gifts which he brought to the professorship of modern languages, however, could not offset the poisonous effects of erratic pedagogy, rude mannerisms and, finally, an act of spectacular brutality.

George Blaetterman

(1788—1850).
Education: University of Heidelberg.

George Blaetterman was the first professor Francis Walker Gilmer hired while in London during his search for professors to fill the faculty of the new university. A German, Blaetterman had served as a foot soldier in Napoleon’s army in the frightful Russian campaign, having joined the Emperor’s cause against the Tsar as an impetuous young Heidelberg student. An already accomplished scholar, Blaetterman required no convincing by Gilmer to accept the post at the newly founded University of Virginia; confident as he was that a move to the United States would prove a smart decision for his future career. At the University of Virginia, Blaetterman was hired to teach his native tongue, as well as French, Italian, Spanish, and Anglo-Saxon. He also came prepared to teach the vernacular of Denmark, Sweden, Holland and Portugal.

This tall, blonde, and reportedly handsome German was initially well received by Virginia society, socializing among Virginia’s best families, including the Madisons. In one two-week stay at Montpelier, Dolly Madison gave to George a young macaw. When the French General Lafayette was visiting the United States, he also called on the young professor whom he had met in France at his pavilion residence.

It did not take long, however, for the professor’s rude mannerisms to cause him to become avoided. A first subtle, then half-overt campaign was launched for his removal based upon a variety of transgressions. Blaetterman’s disorganized pedagogy made him
a horrible professor despite his profound knowledge of foreign languages, however it was his sarcasm and taunting of students that made him immensely unpopular among undergraduates, who sought to avoid him at all costs. Meanwhile, Blaetterman’s disrespect for his colleagues was felt from the beginning; he rarely attended faculty meetings, and failed to return the library’s magazines and books, which he took the liberty of annotating much to his colleagues’ chagrin. In addition to such disrespect towards the academic policies of the University, Blaetterman also had little respect for the Academical Village, installing a distasteful and unpopular smokehouse in his garden, and attempting to repaint his Pavilion a different color much to Board of Visitors’ distress.

For many years, students and faculty sought Blaetterman’s removal. One day in 1836 while teaching, Blaetterman’s house was stoned by his students. Two years later, students petitioned the Chairman of the Faculty for his dismissal. Prior to this, the faculty at large had also designed a modest attempt for Blaetterman’s removal, proposing Henry Wadsworth Longfellow as his successor, who was deeply interested in the post. Sadly, this proposal did not follow through and it was not until 1840 that Blaetterman’s removal was finally secured, ironically under his own final transgression of proper social behavior. One evening, Blaetterman was sighted beating his wife in public in front of his pavilion residence. Seen by a number of students, who shortly launched a campaign refusing to enroll in Blaetterman’s classes, as well as Professor John A. G. Davis, then Chairman of the Faculty, Professor Blaetterman’s removal was demanded shortly thereafter.
Writings

Blaettermann, George. *A Discourse On the Use of Lime In Agriculture: Delivered Before the Agricultural Society of Albemarle, At Their Fall Meeting, Nov. 1st, 1845.* Charlottesville [Va.]: James Alexander, Printer, 1846.

Further Reading


Blaettermann, George. *George Blaettermann Answers to Charges.*

Blaettermann, George Walter, and Kate M Blaettermann. *Reminiscences of His Step-father, George Blaettermann, Early Professor At the University of Virginia, 1902-1904.*


Dunglison, Robley, et al. *Autobiographical Ana* (p. 139-476).

Reck, Henry Dart. *George Blaettermann: First Professor of Modern Languages At the University of Virginia.*
Charles Kraitsir

(1804 – Morrisania, New York, 1860)
Education: Petsch and Vienna

A native Hungarian, Dr. Kraitsir joined the Polish patriots in their effort to throw off the Russian yoke after only briefly practicing medicine, and served as a surgeon at Warsaw and in the field. His life was migratory for years, residing in Germany, Italy, France and Belgium. He spoke all of these languages fluently, and therefore seemed a prime candidate to replace Professor Blaetterman as the second professor of modern languages in 1841. Kraitsir was only to hold this post for three years, however, for in 1844 he was dismissed along the lines of marital unrest just as his predecessor had been. Ironically, whereas Blaetterman had been dismissed for beating his wife in public, Kraitsir was dismissed for having been repeatedly beaten and expelled from his pavilion residence by his wife.

It is unfortunate that not much more is known about this professor following his time at the University of Virginia. He is chiefly remembered for his publication “Glossology: being a Treatise on the Language of Nature” (1852). He died in Morrisania, New York in 1860.

Writings

Further Reading
Carrière, Joseph Médard. Biographical Notes On Charles V. Kraitsir.

Maximilian Schele de Vere

(Wexio, Sweden, November 1, 1820 – Washington, D.C., May 12, 1898).

Education: University of Bonn, Berlin, Ph.D., 1841; Greifswald, J.D., 1842.

The son of a Swedish man who served as an officer in the Prussian Army, the young de Vere exhibited a great aptitude for languages early mastering Slavic languages, French and German. So augmented by travel were his aptitude for foreign languages that he won reputation as a linguist even before he reached university. After a year or more in the Prussian diplomatic and military services, Schele immigrated to Boston in 1843, where he gave private instruction in languages, while studying modern Greek at Harvard.

His refined and amiable nature made his talents as a linguist known among his many acquaintances, and no doubt made him a desirable candidate for the chair of modern languages, following the cantankerous George Blaetterman and the rather pathetic Charles Kraitsir. Indeed, Schele, although a foreigner, was much beloved by his students, who often referred to him as “Old Schele.” In addition to teaching French, German, Spanish and Italian languages and literatures, Schele was also one of the earliest proponents of comparative philology. He published numerous studies on the development of the English language, and he contributed to the Standard Dictionary.

Despite these significant contributions, Schele’s reputation was called into question towards the end of his tenure at the university. While away on research in Europe, Professor Thornton, Schele’s close friend and colleague received anonymous letters later attributed to Schele describing his wife’s flirtations and philandering. Perhaps motivated by guilt or suppressed feelings towards his colleagues’ wife whom he remained a close family friend through the end of his life, it is speculated that this was one of the primary reasons for Schele’s resignation in 1895. A retrospective written in 1936 on the professor’s life recorded the reminiscences of some of the older members of
the University, who claimed that a lady had seen Professor Schele urinating against the columns on the lawn, further augmenting proposals against his mental stability towards the end of his life.

Professor Schele was twice married, each time to a daughter of Judge Alexander Rives of Albermarle County; first, to Eliza Wydown Rives in 1849, and later to her sister Lucy Brown Rives in 1860. Professor Schele retired from teaching after fifty-one years of service to the University, which honored him with an elaborate solid silver punch bowl lined with gold, accompanied by a letter, which read:

> When your graceful contributions to literature are reviewed, your fame seems well grounded and abiding. But your renown does not depend upon these, for your reputation is safe in the affectionate and grateful remembrance of your old pupils, who recall with pride your eloquent lectures and acknowledge with gratitude their indebtedness to your faithful instruction.

Writings

*Grammar of the Spanish Language: with a history of the language and practical exercises*, 1854.


*First French Reader; for beginners*, 1871.


*Americanisms: the English of the New Word*, 1871.

*An Address Delivered by M. Schele De Vere, Ll. D., On the Occasion of the Laying of the Corner-stone of the University Chapel, March 30, 1885*, 1885.

*Essays by Schele De Vere*, 1887.

*The French Verb*, 1891.

*Standard Dictionary*, 1893-95.
Further Reading


Charles William Kent

(Louisa, Virginia, September 27, 1860 – Charlottesville, Virginia, October 5, 1917). Education: University of Virginia, M.A., 1862; Leipzig, Ph.D., 1887.

Kent descended from Virginia’s earliest settlers and was of English ancestry on his father’s side and Scottish on his mother’s. He was born in nearby Louisa in 1860, and privately educated at the Locust Dale Academy until he entered the University of Virginia in 1878, where he completed his Master’s. He became the founder along with a colleague of the University School, Charleston, South Carolina, where he remained headmaster for two years. He then left the United States for Germany, where he studied at the Universities of Goettingen, Berlin, and Leipzig, the latter from which he received his doctorate in 1887.

Upon returning to the United States, Kent worked for two years as an assistant professor in the Department of Modern Languages at the University of Virginia under the direction of Professor Schele, before filling the comprehensive of Professor of English and Modern Languages at the University of Tennessee. In 1893 Kent was called back to the University of Virginia to become the first Linden Kent Professor of English at the University; a more than appropriate appointment considering that the chair was founded as a memorial to his lawyer brother.

Professor Kent edited texts of Cynewulf, Burns, Tennyson, and Poe, and was the first editor of the sixteen-volume Library of Southern Literature, as well as the first Editor of the University of Virginia Alumni Bulletin. He was also heavily involved with the University Literary Magazine, and in early 1903 he offered a course in Journalism. He lectured widely on all literary subjects and early honorary degrees from the University of Alabama (LL.D), and Colgate (Litt.D). Kent also served as Chairman of the State Executive Committee of the Young Men’s Christian Association. Known affectionately
by his students as “Chucky,” his Sunday Bible Class was for years a huge influence at the University.

In 1895, Kent married one of Professor Francis Henry Smith’s daughter’s, Eleanor, and they moved to Pavilion IV on the East Lawn until that became the office of President Edwin Anderson Alderman. The Kents then moved into Pavilion V, which they shared with Eleanor’s father, Professor Smith on the West Lawn. It was there that Professor Kent’s life was cut short at the age of fifty-eight of a cerebral brain hemorrhage. He is buried in the University Cemetery.

**Writings**

*The Outlook for Literature in the South: A Lecture*, 1892.

*Literature and Life: Being the Lecture Delivered Upon the Inauguration of the Work of the Linden-Kent Memorial School of English Literature In the University of Virginia*, 1894.

*Graphic Representation of English and American Literature*, 1898.

*Outlines of Lectures On American Literature: Delivered by Charles W. Kent At the Virginia School of Methods*, 1900.

*English in the High Schools*, 1908.
Further Reading


Kent, Charles William. *Additional Papers of Charles W. Kent, Professor of English Literature, University of Virginia*.


Moran, Charles E. *Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for whom the Dormitories at the University of Virginia were Named*, 1978.

Smith, Francis H, Gessner Harrison, and Charles William Kent. *Papers and Correspondence Relating to the University of Virginia Including Correspondence, Class Notes, Diplomas, of Gessner Harrison, Francis Henry Smith, and Charles William Kent*. 


### VIII. Pavilion V

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tr>
<td>1824-1828</td>
<td>George Long</td>
<td>Ancient Languages</td>
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<tr>
<td>1828-1835</td>
<td>Robert M. Patterson</td>
<td>Natural Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835-1859</td>
<td>Gessner Harrison</td>
<td>Ancient Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859-1927</td>
<td>Francis H. Smith</td>
<td>Natural Philosophy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
George Long

(Poulton, Lancashire, November 4, 1800 – Chichester, August 10, 1879).

Education: Trinity College, Cambridge, B.A.

The son of a British West Indies merchant, Long was already a Cambridge don when he was offered the professorship of ancient languages at the University of Virginia by Francis Walker Gilmer in London. A frequent guest at Monticello, Jefferson referred to Long as the “boy professor,” a title which carried the tone of disapproval that Jefferson first fostered towards the appointment of such a young scholar, which softened in the face of the demonstration of Long’s excellent teaching abilities.

Indeed, the faculty was sad to see him leave in 1828 after only three short years to accept the professorship of Greek at the newly founded University of London (later University College, London). Long recommended the appointment of Gessner Harrison as his successor, but this was not the only lasting contribution Long made to the University, nor the only thing that he took away from America, for in 1827, Long had married Harriet née Gray (d. 1841), the widow of Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Selden, judge of the supreme court of Arkansas. Together they had four sons and a daughter who died in infancy.

Upon returning to England, Long taught classical philology at the University of London until 1831, at which time he resigned in protest of the dismissal of a fellow faculty member. Long then began the most active and fruitful portion of his life as a proponent of education for all classes, beginning with his editorship of the radical Quarterly Journal of Education (10 vols. 1831-5), founded by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge (SDUK). From 1833 until 1846, Long was involved with editing all twenty-nine volumes of the SDUK’s Penny Cyclopedia.
Also interested in geography, Long was a founding member of the Royal Geographical Society, and published widely on the subject. In 1842, Long replaced former University of Virginia faculty member Thomas H. Key as professor of Latin at the University of London, which he held until 1846 when he taught Jurisprudence at Middle Temple. Exasperated by the indifference of his students, Long became a schoolmaster at the newly founded Brighton College. Long held this position until his retirement in 1871 to Chichester, where he lived with his parrot George, his dog Caesar, and his housekeeper Esther Lawrence, who was an executor of his will and is buried in his grave.

**Writings**


*The British Museum: Egyptian Antiquities*, 1832.

*Penny Cyclopedia*, 1833-46.

*America and the West Indies*, 1845

*Thomas Hewitt Key*, 1876.
Further Reading


Dunglison, Robley, et al. *Autobiographical Ana* (p. 139-476).

George Long: *In Memoriam: one of Original Professors of University of Virginia, Professor of Foreign Languages*, 1879.

Moran, Charles E. *Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for whom the Dormitories at the University of Virginia were Named*, 1978.
Robert Maskell Patterson


Born in Philadelphia, Patterson followed in the footsteps of his father in many ways. Both were professors at the University of Pennsylvania, and both served as directors of the US Mint. Patterson began his education at the University of Pennsylvania, where he received his Bachelor’s in 1804, and an M.D. in 1808. Following his studies at the University of Pennsylvania, Patterson was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society in 1809 at the age of twenty-two, being the youngest person thus honored by the society at that time. Shortly thereafter, Patterson went to Paris in 1809 where he spent two years attending lectures in medicine, chemistry, natural philosophy and natural history, after which he took a course in chemistry under Sir Humphrey Davy in London. He returned to Philadelphia in 1812, and in 1813 became appointed professor of natural philosophy at his alma matter. He would eventually be elected as vice provost, a position that he would hold alongside his professorship until 1828.

Replacing Professor Charles Bonnycastle, Patterson was appointed to the chair of natural philosophy at the University of Virginia in 1828. Patterson had been an acquaintance of Jefferson prior to his appointment at the University. Keenly interested in cryptology, Patterson exchanged many letters with Thomas Jefferson in code, one of which was only recently decoded in 2007 by Dr. Lawrence Smithline. The cipher consists of 7 digit pairs and is decoded by decrypting 7 blocks at a time, used to represent the Declaration of Independence. Patterson called it his “perfect cipher” and Jefferson considered adopting it for government use.
Patterson’s government contributions also included his charge of the topographical defense of the city of Philadelphia in the War of 1812, which he was later publicly thanked for his efficient service. In 1835, Patterson was appointed by President Andrew Jackson as director of the US Mint, a position that he held until ill health forced him to retire in 1851.

Patterson died in Philadelphia in three years later, and was succeeded by his wife, Helen Hamilton, the daughter of a Pennsylvania tobacco merchant whom he had married in 1814, and their six children.

**Writing**

Patterson, Robert M, and Thomas Jefferson. *Papers of Robert Maskell Patterson.*

Patterson, Robert M, and Walter Thompson. *Notes and Problems for Professor Patterson's Classes In Natural Philosophy At the University of Virginia, 1830.*

**Further Reading**


Patterson, Robert M. *Correspondence of Robert Maskell Patterson and His Son Thomas Leiper Patterson.*
We have had a devil of a spree among the professors & students. There were two dismissed a few days since, and they conceived that they were badly treated some hour or other, so they conceived to give the chairman of the faculty a slight drubbing, & then go to Texas. So they got ready Tuesday morning, went up to the university, tied their horses, went in, met old Harrison coming from lecture; one took him, shook him; & the other gave him a few whacks with his whip; having finished licking him, they mounted their horses and made off towards Texas.

–A. S. Baun, in a letter dated March 23, 1839

**Gessner Harrison**

(Harrisonburg, Virginia, June 26, 1807 – Nelson County, Virginia, April 7, 1862). Education: University of Virginia, B.A.

Appointed as a successor to George Long upon his return to England to accept a professorship at the newly founded University of London (University College, London), Harrison had caught the eye of his professor early in his studies at the University of Virginia. Harrison’s father had been a physician, and Harrison had originally intended to study make medicine his career, being one of the first three graduates in the School of Medicine. However, he was also one of the first three graduates of the School of Ancient Languages; and the best among these, Long’s recommended Harrison as his successor, thus guiding Harrison’s career path for him.

Gessner and his brother Edward had caught the attention of Thomas Jefferson early in their studies when they declined his invitation to dine at Monticello on a Sunday on the grounds of their father’s wishes to observe the Sabbath. So impressed by the boys’ respect for their father, Jefferson invited them to dine with him privately the following week.

Despite his high standing within the University, the Board of Visitors were shocked by Long’s recommendation, and they therefore awarded Harrison a probationary appointment of one year. Harrison had begun his formal schooling at the age of four,
and at eight was introduced to Latin grammar. Instructed by Presbyterian ministers who required absolute accuracy, Harrison learned Greek, Latin and mathematics before entering the University of Virginia with his brother in March of 1825.

Harrison struggled during his early tenure at the University with maintaining his authority among his students, many of whom found it difficult to recognize him as a superior given his status as such a recent graduate. A small, slight man, Harrison was victimized by unruly students most notably in 1839 when a group of students raiding the Academical Village caught him coming from class and whipped him with a horsewhip before fleeing the state.

Despite his scruples at various points in his career with students, Harrison was highly respected as a Professor of Ancient Languages. When the Board of Visitors decided to relieve the congestion of classics courses in 1856 by diving the School of Ancient Languages into two separate schools, a School of Latin, and of Greek and Hebrew, Harrison selected Latin as his preferred language of instruction, with Basil Gildersleeve being elected the professorship of Greek and Hebrew. In addition to being a skilled lecturer, Harrison was also a skilled administrator and was five times elected Chairman of the Faculty.

In 1830, Harrison married a daughter of Professor George Tucker, and together they had six sons and three daughters. One daughter became the wife of Professor Francis Henry Smith, and another of a prominent Baptist clergyman, the Rev. John Albert Broadus. It was in part under his desire to support his family that Harrison resigned from teaching to establish a boarding school for boys in 1859. Sadly, Harrison’s ambitions were cut short when he became ill while nursing a son who had contracted camp fever during the Civil War, becoming fatally infected with the same disease in 1862.
Writings

*The Geography of Ancient Italy and Southern Greece*, 1834.


*Treatise on the Greek Prepositions and the Cases of the Nouns with Which These are Used*, 1858.

Further Reading


Broadus, John Albert. *A Memorial of Gessner Harrison: M. D., Professor of Ancient Languages In the University of Virginia*. Charlottesville: Chronicle steam printing house, 1874.


Harrison, Gessner. *Sketch of the Life of Gessner Harrison*.

Moran, Charles E. *Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for whom the Dormitories at the University of Virginia were Named*, 197.

Smith, Francis H, Gessner Harrison, and Charles William Kent. *Papers and Correspondence Relating to the University of Virginia Including Correspondence, Class Notes, Diplomas, of Gessner Harrison, Francis Henry Smith, and Charles William Kent*.
He possessed a beautiful flow of language and a voice that was clear, musical, sonorous with volume and power—qualities that made him an exceptional conversationalist, an attractive and engaging speaker. He had a heavy suit of dark-brown hair, frequently worn long, which with his benign countenance suggested the ministerial cloth.

–David M. R. Culbreth

Francis Henry Smith

(Leesburg, Virginia, October 14, 1829 – Charlottesville, Virginia, 1928). Education: University of Virginia, M.A., 1851.

The son of a merchant, Smith was born in Leesburg, and the family subsequently moved to Albemarle County. Smith was educated in private schools at Leesburg, and was originally sent to Wesleyan College in Middletown, Connecticut, however, political disturbances prevented his return. He therefore entered the University of Virginia in 1849, where he graduated with his Master’s in 1851. He was immediately appointed instructor of Mathematics, a position that he held for two years when, in 1853, he was elected professor of natural philosophy to succeed William B. Rogers upon his move to Boston.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Professor Smith was elected by the Confederate congress commissioner of weights and measures.

In 1853, Professor Smith married Mary Stuart Harrison, the daughter of Professor Gessner Harrison. The two of them had four children, one of which, Eleanor, would go on to marry Professor Charles W. Kent. Well-loved by his students, Professor Smith would continue to teach at the University until 1909, at which time he was appointed Professor Emeritus. Smith moved from Pavilion V to Pavilion IV, where he resided with his daughter and her husband, Professor Charles W. Kent until his death in 1928.
**Writings**

*Thoughts On the Discord and Harmony Between Science and the Bible*, 1888.

*Christ and Science: Jesus Christ Regarded As the Centre of Science*, 1906.

*The Bible: God's Last and Best Revelation of Himself*, 1909.

*The Foucault Pendulum As a Lecture Room Experiment*, 1914.

**Further Reading**


Smith, Francis H, Gessner Harrison, and Charles William Kent. *Papers and Correspondence Relating to the University of Virginia Including Correspondence, Class Notes, Diplomas, of Gessner Harrison, Francis Henry Smith, and Charles William Kent.*
## IX. Pavilion VI

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>1828-35</td>
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<td>1835-53</td>
<td>William B. Rogers</td>
<td>Natural Philosophy</td>
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<td>1853-59</td>
<td>Francis H. Smith</td>
<td>Natural Philosophy</td>
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<td>1859-61</td>
<td>Lewis M. Coleman</td>
<td>Latin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1861-96</td>
<td>George F. Holmes</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For Gessner Harrison see Pavilion V, where he resided from 1835-1859.

** For Francis H. Smith see Pavilion V, where he resided from 1859-1927.
First. What branch or branches of science you would wish me to devote my services to. Secondly. What duties I should have to perform. How far I should be a liberty to form my own plan of promoting that science. How far I should be under direction of others and of whom. How far I should have control of my own time. And if to this you could add an account of the existing state of the University, of its government, the average number, age, and pursuits of the students, etc., you would do much to enable me to come to a decisive conclusion.

—Thomas Hewitt Key to Francis Walker Gilmer, 1824

Thomas Hewitt Key

(Southwark, March 20, 1799 – London, November 1875).
Education: Trinity College, Cambridge, B.A., 182; M.A. 1824.

The son of a physician, Key had hoped to go to the bar, but chose instead to prepare for a career in medicine under his father’s wishes. This plan was cut short, however, by Francis Walker Gilmer’s offer of the professorship of Mathematics at the University of Virginia. Key wrote to Gilmer with a number of questions regarding the position, and upon receiving a satisfactory response to his queries regarding his responsibilities, salary, and liberties of instruction, he set off for the United States. Before leaving England, Key married Sarah Troward (d. 1884), and the two of them embarked on what would amount to a very brief stay in the Untied States.

At Virginia, Key was a successful lecturer of mathematics, however, he also demonstrated proficiency in other subjects when in the summer of 1825 he filled the absence of the Professor of Ancient Languages. Having a natural capacity for many subjects, Key’s experience teaching Greek and Latin at the University foreshadowed a position that would eventually draw him away from Virginia in 1827, when he was called to the University of London as Professor of Latin, being thus succeeded in his position as Professor of Mathematics by Charles Bonnycastle at the University of Virginia.
Key’s time at Virginia may have been short, but the endurance of his relationship to the University is longstanding, leaving behind a legacy that extends to the present-day. At the University of Virginia, Key made the acquaintance of Professor George Long, whom he maintained a lifelong friendship as they jointly taught at the University of London. Moreover, in 1978, Mark Murray-Flutter, a native of Great Britain and Key’s great-great-great grandson, attended the University of Virginia, inspired by his great-grandfather’s legacy and contribution to the fledgling University.

Many have speculated as to the reasons why Thomas Hewitt Key’s stay at the University was so short, with a common conclusion being his discomfort with Virginia’s climate. This conclusion falls short of being convincing, however, when considering the fact that most of the state’s earliest settlers were English. According to Murray-Fletcher, his great-grandfather left the United States because “the Southern policy of slavery gave him an odd feeling.”

Upon returning to England Key taught Latin at the University of London for many years, until in 1842, when he gave up the Professorship of Latin and took up the Professorship of Comparative Grammar, with the undivided headship of the school. Key held this position until his death from bronchitis in 1875. In addition to this accomplishment, Key was one of the founders of the London Library, a fellow of the Royal Society, and a member of the Society of the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge.
Writings


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As long as he lived, Mr. Rogers cherished, as one of his most enduring and precious memories, the recollection of the years which he had spent there; and when in the next decade it devolved upon him to found and organized the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston, the model which he always had in mind was the University of Virginia.

–Emma Savage, wife of William B. Rogers

**William Barton Rogers**

Education: College of William and Mary.

William B. Rogers was born in Philadelphia in 1804, the second of four brothers, to Patrick Kerr and Hannah Blythe Rogers. Like his three brothers, William would follow in his father’s footsteps as a scientist and professor. Amazingly, William and his three brothers, James Blythe, Henry Darwin, and Robert Empie, would all go on to become some of their generation’s most important scientists, with their areas of expertise spanning everything from geology to engineering.

Upon completing his earliest education in the public schools at Baltimore, William attended the College of William and Mary, where his father became a professor of natural philosophy and chemistry in 1819. After graduation, together with his brother Henry, William led a school at Windsor Maryland before becoming a lecturer at the Maryland Institute. Upon his father’s death in 1828, however, William would return to the College of William and Mary, where he succeeded his father’s professorship. William would continue to serve in this capacity until 1835, when he was called to the Chair of Natural Philosophy at the University of Virginia, at which time he was also commissioned as state geologist.

William and his brother had already begun to study the geology of the Piedmont Valley, and their survey of Virginia geology would continue from 1837 through 1842. The findings of this survey would receive international recognition upon their
publication, bringing the Rogers brothers into the society of such esteemed scientists of their day as Darwin, Ramsay and Mallet. William was a popular lecturer while at the University of Virginia, and he made great strides as Chairman of the Faculty to secure the future and reputation of the University. Most notably, in 1844, when the Virginia legislature threatened to cut the University’s $15,000 grant under political pressures, Professor Rogers went to Richmond to advocate the cause of the college with such force, that, despite much opposition, the grant was secured.

Yet despite these successes, Rogers found the burden of responsibility at the University of Virginia to be detrimental to his own research, and felt the constraints of the disorganized and rather inept Board of Visitors. Student riots were prevalent during this time, and Rogers watched the death of his dear friend and colleague, Professor John A. G. Davis with much sorrow and trepidation. Meanwhile, facing the pressures to discipline the University’s continually unruly students, Rogers felt restricted from pursuing his own course of teaching, which was only furthered hampered by the University’s little interest in promoting the useful sciences such as engineering that Rogers wished to instruct.

It was under these pressures, alongside the pressure of supporting his wife Emma Savage, whom he married in 1845, that Rogers announced his resignation from the University of Virginia for the second and ultimately final time that same year. Yet as much as Rogers was motivated to be relieved of the responsibilities of the professorship at the University of Virginia, it is clear that he was also motivated by an intense interest in the possibilities for reforming science education that he thought could best be carried out in the intellectual hub of Boston.

Upon moving to Boston, William and his brother immediately set to work on the outline for the creation of a polytechnic university in Boston. The brothers were so successful in advocating their project that in 1861, the Massachusetts state legislature passed an act incorporating the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Rogers was
elected its first president the following year, serving until 1870, at which time he resigned due to ill health until 1878, at which time under improved health he resumed the presidency. Rogers continued again to serve as MIT’s president until 1881, at which time he made his resignation final, taking the title Professor Emeritus of Geology and Physics. He died the following year while delivering a graduation ceremony; his last words were “bituminous coal.”
Writings


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Account of Some New Instruments and Processes for the Analysis of the Carbonates, 1868.

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Tell General Jackson and Lee that they know how Christian soldiers can fight, and I wish they could see now how a Christian soldier can die.

–Lewis Minor Coleman on his deathbed

Lewis Minor Coleman

(Hanover County, Virginia, February 3, 1827 – Edge Hill, Caroline County, Virginia, March 21, 1863). Education: University of Virginia, 1846.

A native of Hanover County, Virginia, Coleman was a thoughtful and studious child, and the best pupil at Col. Fontaine’s in Hanover County. He attributed his success in the public school to his mother’s teaching, who he said was responsible for thoroughly grounding his primary studies, and imparting good study habits. In 1841, Coleman entered Concord Academy in Caroline County, a school where his distinguished uncle, the Virginia Senator Frederick W. Coleman had attended. A classmate fondly reflected on his friend as “Cheerful, sprightly, jocund in the intercourse with his fellows, ready and wager in all youthful sports, he was so manly, truthful and prudent, that he excited no enmities and compelled respect and deference.”

Coleman entered the University of Virginia in 1844, at the young age of 17. Upon his departure, Coleman’s aged father gave the young Coleman sage advice: “My son, don’t drink too much, and be sure to pay your debts, or let me know and I will pay them for you.” A bit concerned by his grandfather’s cautioning, Coleman is said to have related to his traveling companion, “Grandpa seems to have fears concerning me which Mother has not, I hope she knows me best.”

It would appear that his mother did, for Coleman soon took a high standing among his peers at the University, where his reputation as a student had preceded him. With such a strong commitment to his studies, Coleman passed through his university course in only two years, at which time he devoted his life to the profession of teaching,
becoming his uncle’s assistant at the Concord Academy. After a few years, the Concord Academy closed, and Coleman established a boarding school near Taylorsville, called Hanover Academy. He continued in this capacity until 1859, when he was called to the University of Virginia and elected as successor to his mentor, Gessner Harrison as Professor of Latin.

Coleman’s position at the University did not last long, however, for only two years later the Civil War broke out and Coleman sought his resignation to join the ranks of the Confederate Army. The University refused to accept his resignation, leaving his seat open for his return. Enlisting in an artillery company, Coleman was soon promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of artillery in 1862. Shortly after resuming command, at the Battle of Fredericksburg, Coleman was shot in the leg just below his knee on December 13, 1862. Believing the wound to be a slight one, Coleman refused to leave the field until increasing faintness forced him to do so. He was removed to Edge Hill, Caroline County, the residence of his brother-in-law, where he died three months later.

Further Reading


He invariably came into the class-room, Rotunda basement, to the left (west), having under arm or in hand several historic or classic works, and a somewhat worn, medium size note-book containing his own annotations, commentaries and memoranda—not any completely written lecture, simple the skeleton or brief portions. He usually greeted his classes with a smile, wiped his eyes and glasses, adjusted the latter, and at once called the role in a serious manner, yet never refusing anything susceptible of a little fun.

—David M. R. Culbreth

GEORGE FREDERICK HOLMES

(Demara, British Guiana, August 2, 1820 – Charlottesville, Virginia, November 4, 1897). Education: Durham University.

Professor Holmes found himself at the University of Virginia after a rather lengthy and unconventional cross-continental educational and professional journey. Born in British Guiana to Joseph Henry Herndon Holmes, the colony’s Judge-advocate, Holmes was taken to England at the age of two to live in the home of his maternal grandfather in Northumberland. It was here that the boy was placed at school in Sunderland in Durham county, before entering the University of Durham in 1836, where he won a prize scholarship. Mysteriously, his studies were abruptly broken off on the basis of some indiscretion, at which time his family cast him adrift and the seventeen year-old Holmes moved to Canada.

Holmes landed in Quebec on July 28, 1837, and slowly drifted from Canada to Philadelphia, to Virginia, Georgia and finally to South Carolina. In South Carolina, Holmes was admitted to the bar in 1842, although he never practiced law. Later, in 1845 Holmes was called to the University of Richmond. Two years later, he was appointed Professor of History and Political Economy at the College of William and Mary; and for a single year, in 1848, he was chosen to be the first President of the University of Mississippi.
An accident that cost him one eye forced Holmes to resign from the University of Mississippi, at which time he moved to southwestern Virginia and became a farmer. He continued to write and publish a number of printed articles, therefore it is unsurprising that when the School of History and General Literature was added in 1857 at the University of Virginia, Holmes was asked to be its first professor. For forty years Holmes served in this capacity until his death. It is remarkable that a man who never completed so much as a Bachelor’s degree would go on to have such a successful and fruitful career, teaching subjects as diverse as history, political economy and English grammar.

At his death at the age of seventy-seven, Holmes was buried next to his wife, the daughter of onetime Virginia Governor John Floyd in Sweet Springs, West Virginia.

**Writings**

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*The Virginia Colony; Or The Relation of the English Colonial Settlements In America to the General History of the Civilized World: An Address, Delivered At the Annual Meeting of the Virginia Historical Society, At Richmond, December 15, 1859, 1860.*


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X. PAVILION VII

1849-1871  JOHN S. DAVIS, MEDICINE
1871-1875  LEOPOLD J. BOECK, MATHEMATICS
1875-1907  NOAH K. DAVIS, MORAL PHILOSOPHY
On one occasion I remember he asked a stalwart Texan the dose of digitalis tincture, and upon getting the reply—one to two tablespoonfuls—simply retorted: “Alas, doctors will differ.” Again upon inquiring the treatment for aconite poisoning, and receiving a lengthy preamble without hesitation, he queried: “Well, what’s next?” Whereupon the young man continued to finish, when the Professor remarked: “Oh, indeed, no need for that, you would already have caused a funeral.

—David M. R. Culbreth

**John Staige Davis**

(Albemarle County, Virginia, October 1, 1824 – Charlottesville, July 17, 1885).

Education: University of Virginia, M.A., M.D.

An alumnus of the University of Virginia, and son of the late professor of law, John A. G. Davis, who was murdered at the hands of a University of Virginia student in 1840, Professor Davis was considered by many to be a prodigy. Davis remains the youngest person to ever receive his Master’s and medical degree from the University. He completed his Master’s before the age of sixteen, and was miraculously awarded his medical degree by the age of seventeen. Upon graduation, Davis continued his medical studies in Philadelphia, and thereafter practiced medicine for a short while in Jefferson County, Virginia.

Joining the faculty in the position of Demonstrator of Anatomy five years after his father’s death, Davis was soon promoted to the position of Lecturer and Demonstrator in 1849, and in 1856 as Professor of Anatomy and Materia Medica. Davis continued on as chair of the department until his death in 1885, by which time his teaching abilities had trained numerous medical professionals across the state of Virginia.

Davis was described by David Culbreth, a one-time student of Davis as being a man of average stature and appearance. Upon meeting him, Culbreth remarked in his memoir of the University’s faculty that “one would not probably feel himself in the presence of more than an average individual, as his general appearance and behavior suggested
little other than the polished, refined gentleman—never aiming at personal show or advantage.” Davis was known to speak his mind clearly, and his lectures were often interspersed with sarcasm, not intended to offend his students, but to keep them engaged with their studies.

Like his father, Davis was a devout Christian who also led a weekly study of the Bible. He harbored no resentment towards the student body that had taken his father’s life, and was every bit as caring and paternalistic towards his students as his father had been.

Writings


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Davis, John Staige. *Papers and Anatomy Notes of John Staige Davis*.

Davis, John Staige. *Papers of John Staige Davis*. 


Temperamental peculiarities alone made Professor Boeck’s position difficult and his relation to his students in some cases strained and distasteful. From a radical, a revolutionary, an adherent and friend of the eloquent but unbalanced Louis Kossuth, a certain eagerness and impetuosity were to be expected, an occasional touch of mordant humor or a bitter response to some fancied slight. These are the things that separated him from the young men he was striving to touch and ambitious to stimulate; these and the strangeness of the stranger from the strange land of Poland.

–William M. Thornton

Leopold Jules Boeck

(Culm, Poland 1823 – Philadelphia, 1896).
Education: University of Bonn; University of Berlin, Ph.D.

Leopold Boeck was forty-four years by the time he joined the faculty at the University of Virginia, and had already led a life of adventure and tumult. Born to noble parents, Boeck championed on the side of the Polish nobility in the Polish revolution of 1849, which being unsuccessful forced him to seek refuge in Hungary. When Hungary experienced their own revolution, Boeck again took up a defeated cause, and would have otherwise been promoted to Secretary of State under General Kossuth, but instead was appointed as Envoy Extraordinary to Turkey in the hopes of securing their aid. This in fact proved disastrous, for Boeck was not only refused aid by the Turkish government, but was imprisoned and eventually sent to Paris. In Paris, he became an intimate friend and supporter of Victor Hugo, in his attempt at accession to the French throne, and he was again forced to live the life of a refugee at the time of the restoration of Louis Napoleon.

Having thus been involved in so many of the major European political events of the 1840’s, Boeck moved to New York in the 1850’s, where he established a Technical Institute which was shut down during the Civil War. The conditions under which Boeck was appointed at the University of Virginia are unknown, however, we do know that Boeck came to the University of Virginia in 1867 as Assistant Professor of Applied
Mathematics. Hanging his political hat to dry, Boeck’s energy was finally applied to a cause that was to leave a lasting impact, for he established engineering as a continuing school in the University.

Immediately upon entering the University, Boeck used his contacts in the United States to develop a cabinet of models that illustrated engineering structures. So impressive were his contributions to the University, that Boeck was promoted full professor in 1869, and the Board of Visitors created a Department of Industrial Chemistry, Civil and Mining Engineering, and Agriculture, a position separate from the Department of Mathematics. Boeck began with just two students in the summer of 1867, and his enrollment steadily increased over the years from twenty-five by the end of 1867, to thirty-three in 1868, and forty-four in 1869. Boeck’s method of teaching was based off of the German lecture system then popular at the University of Virginia, which was more heavily theoretically grounded, relying on lectures, demonstrations with models, and textbooks rather than intensive shop and laboratory practice as was popular at other burgeoning engineering schools.

Boeck’s engineering background successfully allowed him to obtain federal support under the Morrill Act, which was directed towards increasing educational opportunities for farmers and mechanics, rather than gentleman scholars as was most common during the nineteenth century. The University’s allotment of this grant money was contested in the State Legislature debates from 1866 until 1872, on the basis of its heavily theoretical approach to higher education. The engineering program at the University suffered a severe blow when it lost this major source of funding in 1872, although Boeck continued to teach with a minimal amount of equipment, even going on to represent the University at the Vienna Exposition in 1873.

After the Exposition, however, the prospect of significant growth to engineering education at the University had only further declined. In the summer of 1875, the Board of Visitors appointed a special committee to investigate some unspecified charges
against Professor Boeck, at which time they came to the recommendation not to renew Professor Boeck’s appointment. Boeck was invited to defend the accusations made against him, however, he instead chose to submit his resignation on September 1, 1875.

The mysterious circumstances surrounding Boeck’s resignation have long overshadowed his accomplishments during his eight years at the University, which is unfortunate as his name is imperative within the history of the University’s school of engineering. Upon leaving the University, Boeck worked for many years as an engineer in Philadelphia, and served as a professor in the Kennedy School of Technology for a brief period. He afterwards was engaged in writing The Theory of Graphic Statics and Dynamics, and its Applications to the Workshop and School, a work that clearly demonstrates his commitment to improving engineering education, however, his death in 1896 interrupted its full publication.

Further Reading


Altogether he suggested the Grecian philosopher, such as we fancied might have characterized either Aristotle, Plato or Socrates. Professor Davis was a methodical and persistent worker, almost converting night into day, seldom stopping until one or two in the morning, but rested late—often near unto noon.

—David M. R. Culbreth

Noah Knowles Davis


Education: Mercer College, B.A., 1849.

The son of the Baptist Reverend Noah D. Davis, Davis was born in Philadelphia where his father was then a minister to a Baptist Tract Society. In 1830 his father died and his mother, Mary Young, remarried a fellow Virginian, John L. Dagg, himself also a Baptist ecclesiastic. The Dagg family moved to the South, and in 1849, while his stepfather was serving as the college’s president, Noah Davis graduated from Mercer College.

Upon graduation, Davis went to Philadelphia and studied chemistry, and was thence forward associated with several Baptist colleges. From 1852 to 1865, he was in Alabama, where he taught natural science for seven years at Howard College, and the remaining six as the head of the Judson Female Institute. He then served as the president of Bethel College in Kentucky, from 1868 to 1873, before he was appointed as Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University of Virginia.

Like his predecessor, William McGuffey, Davis was a Biblical scholar and delivered Sunday afternoon lectures on the Bible that were popularly attended in his regular classroom. He was a forward-thinker, and explained the creation of the world in six days as not necessarily entailing days of our accepted length, but periods of far greater time in order to accommodate for modern scientific thinking. Although not a favorite professor, and often criticized by his students for making his course unnecessarily
difficult, he was well-respected by all and was often called by his students as simply “Old Noah K.,” a familiar title which implied no disrespect.

In 1857, Davis married Ella Hunt of Albany, Georgia, with whom he had four children—two sons and two daughters. The family resided on the lawn until three years before his death, at which time he retired to remain in Charlottesville.

Writings

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Elements of Psychology, 1892.

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IX. Pavilion VIII

1825-1841  Charles Bonnycastle,  
           Natural Philosophy
1842-1852  Robert E. Rogers, Chemistry
1852-1853  James L. Smith, Chemistry
1853-1871  Socrates Maupin, Chemistry
1871-1885  John S. Davis, Medicine *
1885-1896  Charles S. Venable, Mathematics

*For John Staige Davis see Pavilion VII, where he resided from 1871-1885.
The other Professors, and particularly Mr. Bonnycastle, Professor of Natural Philosophy, may boast of the same kind reception. I entertain a very warm friendship for Mr. B and shall undoubtedly bring him home with me next vacation. He is unmarried, and altho’ not handsome, is so amiable, gentleman-like and well informed, that he cannot fail being highly esteemed when known.

–Professor John P. Emmet

Charles Bonnycastle

(Woolwich, England, 1792 – Charlottesville, October 31, 1840).

Charles Bonnycastle was one of the University of Virginia’s first eight professors, and was hired by Francis Walker Gilmer sight unseen solely on the basis of the young man’s reputation as an up and coming scholar, and as the son of the renowned mathematician, John Bonnycastle, Professor of Mathematics at the Woolwich Military Academy. Bonnycastle’s education remains a mystery, however we do know that he received an excellent education under his father, who he assisted in writing textbooks on mathematics.

Professor Bonnycastle came over from England in 1824 aboard the same ship as Professor Robley Dunglison, Professor of Medicine, and Thomas Hewitt Key, whom he would replace as Professor of Mathematics upon his return to England in 1827. Bonnycastle was at first appointed as Professor of Natural History, one of many subjects that he was well-qualified to teach, however, he was dissatisfied with this appointment and he petitioned the Board of Visitors to be appointed Professor of Mathematics upon Professor Key’s resignation.

The Board, distraught by the resignation of two of their original faculty members, who had resigned on the basis of their disillusionment with the new University, was eager to accommodate Bonnycastle, and in addition to appointing him as chair of mathematics, they also conceded to Professor Bonnycastle’s request for more appropriate teaching
facilities, as Bonnycastle was dissatisfied with the arrangement expected for professors to hold classes within the already spatially limited accommodations of their pavilion residences. Professor Bonnycastle was granted a more appropriate classroom, fitted out with appropriate equipment and storage space within one of the elliptical rooms of the Rotunda.

Professor Bonnycastle quickly revitalized the curriculum of mathematics at the University, and in addition to being the first to teach trigonometry at an American university, he was also permitted to bring the subject of “applied physical sciences to the arts” in his teaching of mathematics, which in nineteenth-century jargon essentially entailed the introduction of civil engineering in courses of “mixed mathematics.” Later, in 1833, Professor Bonnycastle introduced the first formal class in civil engineering. This class attracted enough student interest for Bonnycastle to realize his long-held ambition of opening a School of Civil Engineering in the University, alongside the help of his colleague, Professor William B. Rogers, then Professor of Natural Philosophy.

The new engineering school was the first of its kind within an American university, however, several factors prevented its survival with Bonnycastle’s premature death in 1840. The country was in a state of severe economic depression, and the University, whose board the vast majority of which consisted of agriculturalists from the tidewater regions, uninterested and even threatened by industrial advancement, lacked the support and interest necessary to continue the University’s newly founded school.

Professor Bonnycastle, small and reticent, was a man so shy that he was known to go to great lengths to avoid running into others. He was, however, a very compassionate person, and “altho’ not handsome” according to his friend and colleague Professor Emmet, he married a Virginia woman of Loudoun County named Ann Mason, a woman “of great charm and beauty,” with whom he had three children.
His early death, which has been hypothesized as being accelerated on account of his lack of exercise and the unhealthy habits he developed in working until the wee hours of the morning. However, the beautiful garden he planted behind his pavilion—whose arbor of roses and honeysuckle relieved the bleak appearance of the treeless new grounds, suggest that he was a man who took the time to enjoy life’s simpler pleasures.

Upon his death he was buried in the University Cemetery, and his family moved to Washington, D.C.

Writings

Inductive Geometry, Or, An Analysis of the Relations of Form and Magnitude : Commencing with the Elementary Ideas Derived Through the Senses, and Proceeding by a Train of Inductive Reasoning to Develope the Present State of the Science, 1834.

A Lecture, Introductory to the Course of Mathematics, of the University of Virginia: Delivered At the Commencement of the Session of 1837, 1837.

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He was probably unsurpassed as a practical chemist and as an entertaining expounder of chemistry. His lecture-room was often crowded, somewhat in the style of that of his brother William. In experimental illustrations he was brilliantly successful, and his enthusiasm was so infectious that his lecture-room presented a scene of science made joyous.

–Dr. Ruffner

Robert Empie Rogers

(Baltimore, March 29, 1813 – Philadelphia, September 6, 1884).
Education: University of Pennsylvania, M.D., 1836.

The youngest brother of William B. Rogers, the eminent scientist who left the University of Virginia to found the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with his brother Henry, Robert E. Rogers was the chemist among the “Brothers Rogers,” and like his other brothers went on to become one of the most significant American scientists of his time. Robert was born to Dr. Patrick Kerr, professor of natural philosophy and chemistry at William and Mary. Upon his father’s death in 1828, Robert’s brothers James and William became his guardians, who led him in his first endeavors in the field of engineering as he worked on the railroad survey of New England. He then entered the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated in 1836 with his M.D.; his dissertation Experiments upon the Blood already demonstrated the spirit of a true innovator.

Despite his education, Robert never became a practicing physician. While a medical student, he spent a great deal of time in the chemical laboratory of Robert Hare, and using the knowledge he acquired during this experience, Robert endeavored to help his brother Henry, head of the Pennsylvania geological society, as its chemist. His knowledge and expertise within the subject of chemistry was undoubtedly brought to the University’s attention by William, and long before his brother’s resignation in 1853, Roger entered the University in 1842 as professor of general and applied chemistry. Together with his brother William, Roger devised a new process for preparing chlorine, improved processes for making formic acid and aldehyde, and perfected a method for determining the carbon in graphite. They studied the volatility of potassium and sodium carbonates, the decomposition of rocks by meteoric water, and the absorption of carbon dioxide by liquids.
Robert left the University in 1852, one year before his brother William, to succeed his brother James as professor of chemistry in the medical school of the University of Pennsylvania upon his older brother’s death. During the Civil War, Rogers served as an assistant surgeon in the West Philadelphia military hospital, during which time he lost his right hand while showing a laundress how to use an ironing machine. He quickly learned to write with his left hand, however, and was able to use the remainder of his right arm with remarkable skill.

Due to an unfortunate speculation in connection with the Humboldt Oil Company in 1864, Rogers sustained a severe financial loss. Because of his knowledge of precious metals and their ores, however, Rogers was appointed in 1872 to investigate the waste of silver at a Philadelphia mint, and later in 1875 he prepared the plans for the equipment for the refinery of a mint in San Francisco, that same year investigating the Virginia and California mines in Nevada for the purpose of estimating their probable total yield of gold and silver. In 1877, he resigned his position at the University of Pennsylvania to accept the professorship of medical chemistry and toxicology at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, a position that he held until just before his death.

Rogers was a founding member of the Association of American Geologists and Naturalists (later the American Association for the Advancement of Science), and an original member of the National Academy of Sciences. Upon his death, he was survived by his wife, Delia Saunders, whom he had married in 1866, three years after the death of his first wife, Fanny Montgomery.
Further Reading


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John Lawrence Smith

(Charleston, December 16, 1818 – Louisville, October 12, 1883).
Education: Charleston College; University of Virginia; Medical College, Charleston.

A graduate of the University of Virginia, John Lawrence Smith was born to Virginia-native Benjamin Smith in South Carolina, where he had received a classical education before enrolling in a course focusing on physics, mathematics and chemistry at the University. Upon graduation, Smith worked as a civil engineer for two years, as an assistant engineer on a railroad projected between his Charleston and Cincinnati. Dissatisfied with engineering, Smith returned to Charleston where he pursued medicine.

Thereafter Smith spent three years in Europe, pursuing his medical studies further, however science was also nearest his heart. While in Europe, Smith studied physiology under Flourens and Louget; chemistry under Orfia, Dumas, and Liebig; physics under Ponillet, Desprez, and Brequier; and mineralogy and geology under Eli de Beaumont and Dufrenoy. Upon returning to Charleston, Smith took up his medical practice; however, he continued his own scientific research and often lectured to the public on topics of keen interest to himself such as Toxicology.

His services as a scientist proved to be more needed than those as a doctor, as Smith was appointed by his state’s government as assayer of gold bullion from fields in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. Smith also focused a great deal on agricultural chemistry, and through his research was able to discover a phosphate lime in marls, while coming to a better understanding of the meteorological conditions and character of soil affecting the growth of cotton. This report was of such great importance that the Sultan of Turkey urged President Buchanan to appoint him to the management of the cotton crop in Asia Minor. Just before his projected return to the United States, Smith
was offered the independent and lucrative position of mining engineer, a position that he filled for four years.

Upon returning to the United States, Smith invented the inverted microscope, and nearly immediately upon his return he was elected as Professor of Chemistry at the University of Virginia. Smith was to remain at the University for only a matter of two years, during which time he worked alongside his assistant, Professor George J. Brush, in the revision of the “Chemistry of American Minerals.” Smith left the University shortly before his marriage in 1854 to Sarah Julia Gutherie, daughter of James Gutherie, Secretary of the Treasury.

From thence forward, Smith resided in Louisville, where he taught at the University of Louisville until 1866. Upon retiring from teaching, Smith took up a managerial position at Louisville Gas Works, where he eventually served as president. In 1867, Smith was appointed as commissioner to the Paris Exposition, and later in 1873, he served as commissioner to the Vienna Exposition. In addition to such important roles, Smith continued his own scientific research in his private laboratory at home. He was particularly interested in meteorites, and his extensive collection that rivaled few others, was purchased by Harvard University at his death.

Writings

*New and Ready Method of Determining the Alkalies In Minerals: Part 1st.—the Quantitative Determination of the Alkalies In the Siliceous Minerals Not Soluble In Acids: with a Note On a New Method of Forming the Protoxyd of Nitrogen*, 1853.


Further Reading


The Yankee cavalry appeared within three miles of Charlottesville on a raiding expedition Monday last. Their coming was very unexpected and of course created great excitement. They were drive back by a portion of Stuart’s Artillery […]. They retreated across the river at Rio Mill, burned out the bridge behind them, and also the mills. They did a great deal of damage to the farmers in route towards Greene County.

—Socrates Maupin in a letter to his son Chapman, March 3, 1864

Socrates Maupin


Socrates Maupin was born in Albemarle County, and was a descendant of Gabriel Maupin, who came to Virginia during the French Huguenot emigration of 1700. After preparatory studies, Maupin left Albemarle to study at Washington College, from which he graduated in 1828, before enrolling in the medical school at the University of Virginia. Finishing his medical study in two years, upon receiving his M.D. Maupin continued to study literary and scientific subjects, graduating from the University with an M.A. in 1833.

Maupin’s first academic position was at Hampden-Sidney College, where he taught ancient languages and mathematics from 1833 to 1835. He then moved to Richmond, where he became principal of Richmond Academy, serving as such until 1838 before he established his own private school, which he conducted for fifteen years. During this time, Maupin also taught at the Richmond Medical School, which he helped to found, where he taught chemistry and later served as dean.

In 1853, Maupin was elected Professor of Chemistry, replacing John Lawrence Smith after his two years at the University. After only one year as faculty member at the University, Maupin was elected Chairman of the Faculty in 1854, a position that he held until 1870—the longest period of continuous service in that role in the history of the
University. Maupin led the University during one of the most difficult chapters of its history; he continued to teach during the Civil War, and guided it during the early years of reconstruction. In 1864, he pleaded with Secretary of War James Seddon, himself a University graduate, to grant rations and retirement pay for disabled Confederate students.

At the end of the war, Maupin quickly signed the Loyalty Act, and began to rebuild the University—refinancing it on his own credit, and refilling the depleted faculty.

Maupin’s life ended in Lynchburg in 1871 in a runaway carriage accident. At his death, the faculty praised Maupin’s “extraordinary aptitude for affairs, his clear perception of complex transactions, his rare sagacity and promptness of decision, [and] his varied knowledge of the practical interests of society,” concluding that “it was due largely to him that the prostration during the war was not a final and remediless blow.”

Further Reading


Once when the physical powers of the staff were almost at end, and tempers were rasped, Colonel Venable thought that his chief had not shown him the proper courtesy. He said nothing, but gathered up his papers, and left General Lee’s presence. He lay down to snatch a few minutes of sleep, sad at heart; and awoke to find someone bending over him, and carefully adjusting another frayed blanket around him. It was General Lee.

-Douglas Southall Freeman, *Lee’s Lieutenants: A Study in Command*

**Charles Scott Venable**

(Prince Edward County, April 19, 1827 – Charlottesville, August 11, 1900). Education: Hampden-Sydney College.

Charles Scott Venable was of the fifth generation of a family that had settled in Virginia in 1687, which composed a long line of prominent country gentlemen who served in the House of Burgesses and held important roles during the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. His home at “Longwood” in Prince Edward County was renowned for culture, hospitality and wholesome outdoor life. His father, Nathaniel Venable, was one of the founders of Hampden-Sydney College, where Charles entered at the age of twelve, graduating at the age of fifteen. Charles remained at Hampden-Sydney for two years as a Tutor in Mathematics, whereupon he spent a session at the University of Virginia, before being appointed Professor of Mathematics at Hampden-Sydney.

Venable held this post until 1856, however, during this time he spent a further year of absence at the University of Virginia, completing courses in six different schools, followed by an additional year abroad in Germany where he studied at Berlin and Bonn. Upon returning to the United States in 1856, at which time he was appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy at the University of Georgia. Venable’s stay at Georgia was short, and the following year he transferred to the chair of Mathematics and Astronomy at South Carolina College, later called the University of South Carolina.
While there Venable was commissioned in 1860 to make observations in Labrador on the solar eclipse of that year.

In the early spring of 1861, Venable joined the Congaree Rifles, and was at the fall of Fort Sumter. He first served as a private at First Manassas, serving in a South Carolina command, and was soon promoted to a lieutenancy of artillery, in which his skills as a mathematician gave him especial value. He was in the defense of New Orleans in 1862, at which time he served as an aide alongside General Long, Colonel Walter Taylor, and Charles Marshall to Robert E. Lee. Venable served alongside General Lee until Appomattox, at which time in 1865 they both turned their efforts towards educating the new generation—with Lee taking a position at Washington College in Lexington, and Venable beginning his thirty-one year teaching position as Professor of Mathematics at the University of Virginia.

Venable was not only an excellent lecturer, but was affectionate as a father and towards his students, being stern when necessary. He served as Chairman of the Faculty shortly after Socrates Maupin’s death, from 1870 to 1873, and from 1886 to 1888 and Venable held a major role in the establishment of new schools at the University. In 1867, owing to his initiative new schools were established for chemistry and engineering. Meanwhile, as Chairman of the Faculty, he was chiefly responsible for the establishment of the School of Astronomy, Biology and Agriculture, and of Natural History and Geology. He also induced the state legislature to increase the University’s annuity from $15,000 to $40,000.

In 1856, Venable married Margaret Cantey McDowell, a daughter of Governor James McDowell, who died in 1874. Two years after his wife’s death, Venable remarried a Mrs. Mary Southall Brown, the widow of Colonel J. Thompson Brown. He had five children by his first marriage and one by the second. Two of his daughters married into the Minor family, thus uniting two of the most notable families within the University of
Virginia’s history. Venable retired from teaching four years before his death in 1896 and was named Emeritus Professor. He lies buried in the University Cemetery.

Writings

*Higher Arithmetic: for Advanced Students*, 1871.

*An Elementary Algebra: Designed As an Introduction to a Thorough Knowledge of Algebraic Language*, 1872.


*Notes On Elements of (analytical) Solid Geometry*, 1879.

*Introduction to Modern Geometry*, 1887.


*Elementary Arithmetic*, 1895.

Further Reading


Moran, Charles E. *Brief Biographical Sketches of the Professors for whom the Dormitories at the University of Virginia were Named*, 1978.

XII. Pavilion IX

1825-1846 George Tucker, Moral Philosophy
1846-1873 William H. McGuffey, Moral Philosophy
1874-1903 William E. Peters, Latin*

*For Professor William E. Peters see Pavilion III, where he resided from 1865-1867.
George Tucker

(St. George’s, Bermuda, August 20, 1775 – Albemarle County, Virginia, April 10, 1861). Education: William and Mary College, 1797.

The son of Daniel Tucker, the mayor of the capital city of Hamilton, Bermuda, Tucker was born to a long line of distinguished early colonial settlers of the island, which can be traced back to 1816, in Captain John Smith’s history which records a Master Daniel Tucker as the Governor of Bermuda, who had previously been a planter in Virginia. Tucker did not stay long in Bermuda, however, for at the age of twelve George was sent to Williamsburg, Virginia, and placed into the charge of his distant kinsman St. George Tucker. St. George Tucker, also a native of Bermuda, has succeeded George Wythe as professor of law at the College of William and Mary, from where George Tucker would graduate in 1797.

Upon graduating from William and Mary, Tucker practiced law in Richmond, then in Pittsylvania Court House and finally in Lynchburg. Tucker served as a state legislator before being elected to Congress in 1819, where he served three successive terms between 1819 and 1825, earning a reputation as a debater and constitutional lawyer. Tucker’s political career introduced him to several important political leaders of his time, giving him the distinction of having met every president from George Washington, whose sister’s granddaughter he married in 1802, to James Buchanan, with the exception of John Adams. Tucker became intimate friends with James Madison, and consequently also came to know Thomas Jefferson. When the University opened in 1825, Tucker was chosen as Professor of Moral Philosophy, and as the oldest member of staff was elected the first Chairmen of the Faculty.
In the early day’s of the University’s history, the Professor of Moral Philosophy was responsible not only for educating students in sound moral judgment, but was also largely responsible for teaching history and English literature for there was no Professor of English Literature did not exist until 1882. Tucker was well apprised to teach all subjects, for in addition to his professional career as a lawyer, and a writer on political economics, Tucker also published works of literature, including a novel *The Valley of the Shenandoah*, first published in 1824 before coming to the University, as well as on history. His publications as a historian include a seminal two volume text on *The Life of Thomas Jefferson*, first published in 1837, which Tucker has been said to have labored intensely.

Tucker was largely motivated to give up politics and to teach at the University of Virginia for the increased leisure time the position afforded, allowing him to further concentrate on his literary pursuits. In 1845, at the age of seventy, Tucker was again motivated to devote himself to his writing, and for this reason chose to retire from teaching. Tucker’s decision to retire may have also been motivated by the fact that his friend and kinsmen, Henry St. George Tucker, the son of St. George Tucker, had retired from teaching law at the University of Virginia due to ill health.

Tucker was married three times—first to Mary Byrd Farley, who died two years after their marriage, followed by Maria Ball Carter who he married in 1802, the daughter of George Washington’s only sister. Upon Maria’s death in 1823, Tucker married Louisa Bowdoin Thompson in 1828 during his time at the University, who preceded Tucker in death in 1859.

Tucker’s last years were spent in Philadelphia and proved a prolific time for his writing. He continued in the best of health up until the end of his life, when on a journey throughout the Southern states in the winter he was hit by a hay bail on a steamship in Mobile, Alabama, rendering him unconscious for ten days. He was revived long enough to be taken to the home of his daughter Mrs. George Rives in Albemarle.
County, where he passed away at the age of eighty-six. He was survived by his daughter Mrs. Rives, and his other daughter, who married Professor Gessner Harrison. He lies buried in the University Cemetery.

Perhaps!

My college-days soon will be o’er,
Soon lecture-bells call me no more;
Man-life will open to my view,
And scenes appear to me yet new,
Lt come what may, as years elapse,
Shall I be happy? Ah—perhaps!

The maiden—modest, charming, chaste—
Whom I may seek with ivor-haste,
May yield, and, with a trusting heart,
With me on life’s strange journey start,
She’ll bravely bear time’s cuffs and raps?
And always love me? Yes—perhaps!

When hard adversity and strife
Do both beset my hapless life,
And when the chill of life’s brief year
Draws most uncomfortably near;
When sickness mental vigor saps—
Will you, O Heart, be calm? Perhaps!

When life’s poor, flick’ring flame burns low;
When runs its crimson current slow;
When eyes grow dim that once were bright;
When Youth’s fair morn turns Age’s night, ;
When grim Death knocks, with hurried taps,
Will you be ready, O Soul? Perhaps!
Writings

*Essays on Subjects of Taste, Morals, and National Policy, by a Citizen of Virginia*, 1822.

*The Valley of Shenandoah*, 1824.

*A Voyage to the Moon*, 1827.

*The Life of Thomas Jefferson*, 1837.

*The Laws of Wages, Profits, and Rent Investigated*, 1837.

*The Theory of Money and Banks Investigated*, 1839.

*Progress of the United States in Population and Wealth in Fifty Years*, 1843.


Further Reading


Dunglison, Robley, et al. *Autobiographical Ana* (p. 139-476).

His learning was profound; and, to the student mind, inexhaustible upon the subject considered. Whatever theories were taught were made clear and concise by definition and limitation; and carried conviction, to such a degree, that speaking personally, while I have not reviewed the subject since 1872, his theory of Perception still abides. Rarely was there dissent, and if a student of “superiority complex” dissented he was met with emphatic declaration of error for vacuous thought.

–Marcellus Green, University of Virginia graduate, class of 1872

**William Holmes McGuffey**


William Holmes McGuffey was the son of Scotch-Irish pioneers, a spirit which no doubt infused his pioneering approach to education and contributed to the trailblazing effect he had on American education in the nineteenth century. McGuffey’s father Alexander was the son of a Scottish immigrant, and he was engaged in fighting Native Americans, serving under both St. Clair and Anthony Wayne. When the “Connecticut Reserve” was opened in 1802, McGuffey’s parents Alexander and Anna moved to Ohio, where McGuffey was to spend sixteen years.

Initially educated by his mother, he attended rural schools during intermittent sessions, until his parents enrolled him in private lessons in Latin from a Presbyterian pastor. His striking capacity to memorize, at times memorizing entire books of the Bible and much of other literature, encouraged his family to send him to the Old Stone Academy of Darlington, Pennsylvania, where he studied under the Reverend Thomas Hughes, where he proceeded to Washington College, from which he graduated with honors in 1826.

McGuffey taught school in Kentucky before he was elected to the position of professor of languages at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. The following year he married
Harriet Spinning of Dayton, a union that produced two daughters and three sons. Mcguffey was also ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1829, and regularly preached every Sunday in Darrtown, four miles from Oxford. Towards the end of his life, Mcguffey estimated that he had preached on some 3,000 occasions, however, he never held a regular ministerial appointment. In 1832, he was appointed head of the department of mental philosophy and philology, however, four years later he was called to the presidency of Cincinnati College.

During this period his fame as a lecturer on moral and Biblical subjects spread rapidly. Alongside Samuel Lewis he and others took part in organizing the College of Teachers, an association formed to promote educational interests, and together they labored for a law to be passed that secured the establishment of common schools in Ohio. In 1839, Mcguffey was elected president of Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, a position which he served until the institution closed its doors in 1843. He then returned to Cincinnati to become a professor at Woodward College, and remained at this institution until his election as Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University of Virginia upon the resignation of George Long. Satisfied with his appointment at the University of Virginia, Mcguffey would turn down an employment offer from Harvard University, believing that his opportunity for meaningful contribution were highest at the University where he would continue to teach until his death.

Mcguffey’s impact on American education would extend well beyond his classroom at the University of Virginia, however. While still a professor at Miami University, Mcguffey had begun to compile a series of schoolbooks that were to make his name a household word. The First and Second of his heavily illustrated readers would be published in 1836, the Third and Fourth in 1837. The Fifth book, added in 1844, the *Eclectic Spelling Book*, was added in 1845 by Mcguffey’s brother, and the Sixth was added in 1856. These books would run through edition after edition, their sale reaching an estimated 122,000,000 copies. The great success of his readers was made on the University grounds, where in Pavilion IX he would invite West Lawn children of the
neighborhood over for games and refreshments, where he would read a selection chosen for their age group, gauging their interest and attention to the material and basing his final selections off of this test.

Mcguffey taught at the University for twenty-eight years until his death in 1903, whereupon he was buried in the University Cemetery. He was survived by his second wife, Laura Howard, the daughter of Professor Henry Howard of the Medical School who he had married in 1857, after the death of his first wife in 1853.

Writings

*Mcguffey's New Eclectic Reader: Exercises In Rhetorical Reading, with Introductory Rules and Examples*, 1867.

*Mcguffey's First Eclectic Reader*, 1836.

*Mcguffey's Second Eclectic Reader*, 1836.

*Mcguffey's Third Eclectic Reader*, 1837.

*Mcguffey's Fourth Eclectic Reader*, 1837.

*The Mcguffey Reader and Mcguffey Spelling Book*. 1845.

*Mcguffey's Sixth Eclectic Reader*, 1866.

*Mcguffey's Eclectic Primer*, 1881.
Further Reading


Goode, James Moore. *William Holmes Mcguffey At the University of Virginia, 1845-1873: Essay*.


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<tr>
<th>Year Range</th>
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<td>1825-1833</td>
<td>Robley Dunglison</td>
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<td>1833-1840</td>
<td>John A. G. Davis*</td>
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<td>1845-1895</td>
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*For John A. G. Davis see Pavilion III, where he resided from 1831-1833.
On the following morning before break of day we were again enroute; and passed as on a preceding day, along the vilest roads and through a country generally by no means inviting; and it must be admitted that the prospects were highly unfavorable to the beauty or cultivation of the region in which our lot was to be cast, were we to judge from the specimens we had seen. It had not, however, the least dispiriting influence upon us. I felt like I was to be transferred to a sphere in which I could be useful.

–Robley Dunglison

**Robley Dunglison**

(Keswick, Cumberland, England, January 4, 1798 – Philadelphia, April 1, 1869). Education: Royal College of Surgeons, M.D., 1818; University of Erlangen, Germany, M.D., 1823.

Dunglison received his early education at Brisco Hill in Cumberland and at Green Row Academy. He was then apprenticed to apothecary, but he continued to attend lectures in Edinburgh, Paris and finally London, whereby he earned his M.D. in 1818 at the Royal College of Surgeons. Dunglison continued his study of medicine in Germany thereafter, obtaining yet another M.D. at the University of Erlangen in 1823. Upon beginning his practice, Dunglison determined to devote himself to the study of “Obstetrics and the diseases of women and children,” and set out a public notice with the intention of giving a series of lectures on the subject in 1824.

His plans were overthrown, however, when Francis Walker Gilmer offered Dr. Dunglison the position of Professor of Medicine at the University of Virginia. Dr. Dunglison considered this proposal with much deliberation, and his decision ultimately rested on one thing: realizing that if he remained in England for a few years, his worldly fairs would be in much greater order, Dunglison’s motivation for coming to the University of Virginia dependend on a proposal of marriage. Dunglison was “ardently attached” to a Miss Hariette Leadam, daughter of a fellow London physician. Had he remained in England, he would not have been able to ask for her hand for years to come, however, with a promising career in the United States in sight, he took the
opportunity to propose. Apparently Miss Leadam was quite popular, for her father had to weigh Dunglison’s offer of marriage against that of another of Hariette’s suitors, a Rev. Thomas Lee. Ultimately, Dunglison’s offer was considered the more promising, and upon this news Dunglison signed Gilmer’s contract on 28 September 1824. He and Hariette were married exactly one week later.

Less than a month transpired before Dunglison and his bride crossed the Atlantic Ocean alongside Charles Bonnycastle and Francis H. Key on a voyage that normally would have last five weeks, but lasted fourteen because of stormy weather and poor navigation. Guided by Jefferson’s grandson from Richmond to Charlottesville, the group experienced yet another catastrophe when their carriage got caught in mud and overturned, leaving them to make the remainder of the journey by foot, which involved fording a river. Upon arriving at the University, the faculty resided in a hotel outside of Charlottesville, before their pavilion residences were ready for occupation, at which time they were forced to sleep on the floor until their furniture arrived. Dunglison expressed dissatisfaction with his teaching facilities, and understandably so petitioned Jefferson for a distinct building for anatomical purposes, preferring to conduct such demonstrations outside of his pavilion. Jefferson conceded to this request, with the understanding that he would chose the external design and location of the building, leaving the interior arrangements to Dunglison.

Jefferson and Dunglison developed a close working relationship and friendship, and Dunglison would become Jefferson’s personal physician, treating Jefferson throughout his illness and ultimately at his bedside on his death, their last conversation famously recorded by Dunglison as follows, “Ah! Doctor, are you still there?” Followed by, “Is it the 4th?,“ to which Dunglison answered, “It soon will be.” Dunglison can be said to have held a role as personal physician to many presidents, for he attended not only Jefferson, but also treated James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, and James Madison, who sought medical advice from Dunglison long after he had left the University, even entreating him to come from Baltimore to call on him for medical attention.
Upon securing a successor, Dunglison accepted a position as professor of materia medica at the University of Maryland in Baltimore in 1833. He served in this capacity, before accepting a professorship at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, where he eventually served as dean of faculty. Dunglison’s contributions to the medical world, and most especially to the medical school at the University of Virginia continued well after his death in Philadelphia on April 1, 1869.

**Writings**

*Human Physiology*, 1832.

*New Remedies: with Formulae for Their Preparation and Administration*, 1851.

*Medical Dictionary, “A New Dictionary of Medical Science and Literature.”*

**Further Reading**


Dunglison, Robley, et al. *Autobiographical Ana* (p. 139-476).

Dunglison, Richard J. *Biographical Sketch of Robley Dunglison*.


*Robley Dunglison, 1798-1869: a Brief Biography to Accompany an Exhibit Honoring the 200th Anniversary of Dunglison’s Birth*. [Charlottesville, Va.: Historical Collections & Services, The Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, University of Virginia, 1998.]
"...resolved, that in all future examinations ... each candidate shall attach to the written answers ... a certificate of the following words: I, A.B., do hereby certify on my honor that I have derived no assistance during the time of this examination from any source whatsoever." –Henry St. George Tucker, July 4, 1842

**Henry St. George Tucker**

(Williamsburg, Virginia, December 29, 1780 – Winchester, Virginia, August 28, 1848). Education: William and Mary College, B.A.; LL.D.

Henry St. George Tucker was the eldest son, St. George Tucker, a prominent judge and professor of law at the College of William and Mary. At the age of eleven, Tucker entered the grammar school of William and Mary College conducted by Rev. John Bracken, and completed his Bachelor of Arts in 1791. Tucker followed in his father’s footsteps, studying law from him before opening his own law office in Winchester, Virginia in 1802. His work quickly attracted attention, and just five years later in 1807 he was elected to the House of Delegates, before serving in the War of 1812. In 1815, Tucker was elected to Congress, where he served for two terms before joining the state legislature, serving in the state senate from 1819-1823; and later as president of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals from 1831 until 1841.

At which time, Tucker was offered the professorship of law at the University of Virginia, where his cousin George Tucker had been serving as Professor of Moral Philosophy since 1825 as one of the University’s original faculty members. The University lost Tucker’s predecessor John A. G. Davis tragically by the hand of one of his students, and were wholly unprepared to find a successor. They needed an a person of Tucker’s character and renown to restore the University’s reputation after the murder of Professor Davis, and Tucker accepted the position for which he gave to his brother as being the free tuition granted to his sons, and his ability to reside with his family
throughout the year. Tucker also desired to leave his judgeship while still in good health, rather than being forced to retire on the basis of infirmity.

Although only at the University for four years, retiring shortly before his death in 1845, Tucker made a significant impact on the University’s law curriculum, increasing the length of the program from one year to two, and adding a number of more specialized courses and practical aspects to the law’s more traditional theoretical foundation. These additions included moot court exercises, which he enlisted the aid of a recent graduate John B. Minor to preside over. Minor went on to succeed Tucker upon his retirement, carrying out his educational reforms for the fifty years he served in that role. Tucker also made a significant impact on the University, one which daily effects the University’s students even today: Tucker initiated a mandatory pledge to the University honor code, which served as the foundation of the honor code that is still used by the University today.

**Writings**


*Lectures On Constitutional Law : for the Use of the Law Class At the University of Virginia.*, 1843.

*Lectures On Constitutional Law*, 1843.

*A Few Lectures On Natural Law*, 1844.

*Lectures On Government*, 1844.
Further Reading


There are few instances of a lawyer succeeding to any considerable extent—whatever his abilities or his eloquence without an industrious cultivation of the learning of the law: there are fewer still of his failing, when his moral and professional merit entitled him to succeed. Your fortunes are literally in your hands, to be made or marred by your own conduct. And to merit patience, a spirit of friendliness, and conduct. Add to merit patience, a spirit of friendliness, and resolute industry, and remember that “whoever does justice to the law, to him, in the end, will the law do justice.”

- John B. Minor, Farewell Address to his Graduating Classes

**John Barbee Minor**

(Louisa County, Virginia, June 2, 1813 – Charlottesville, Virginia, July 29, 1895). Education: Kenyon College, Ohio; University of Virginia, 1834.

John Barbee Minor was born in Louisa County, Virginia to Lancelot and Mary Overton Minor, who descended from Dutch immigrants who had settled in Middlesex County, Virginia about 1660. At a very early age, Minor worked as a correspondent for newspapers, traveling across eastern Virginia where he made the acquaintance of distinguished Virginians such as James Madison and James Monroe. At the age of seventeen, Minor was sent to Kenyon College, Ohio, a journey that he made almost entirely by foot across what was then frontier country. This trip on foot was taken with the view of improving delicate health, and upon finishing his studies at Kenyon College, Minor made the return trip also by foot, including a visit to New York, spending ten days living on virtually nothing in New York City, before arriving back in Virginia.

In January of 1831, Minor entered the University of Virginia, where he remained for three sessions, graduating in June of 1834 with a Bachelor of Laws under the direction of Professor John A. G. Davis. After graduation, Minor set up his own law practice at Buchanan in Botetourt County, Virginia, which he managed for six years. He then moved to Charlottesville and formed a partnership with his brother Lucian, a partnership that lasted for only three years. The reason for its dissolution is perhaps
unique: the brothers each trusted the other’s judgment so entirely that they found themselves reluctant to examine points under discussion further. Recognizing this as detrimental to the ideal they set themselves to, the brothers separated with Lucian moving to Louisa County, where he would practice law before becoming Professor of Law at the College of William and Mary, and John remaining in Charlottesville.

Minor was offered the professorship of law at the University of Virginia in 1845, following the resignation of Henry St. George Tucker—a decision that was met with immense criticism. Then only thirty-two years of age, Minor was thought to be too young and inexperienced to carry out such a distinguished and important role at the University, especially given the magnitude of his predecessor’s experience and reputation. Minor graciously accepted the position, however, and he filled that position for fifty years, leaving behind a trail of students that gave the University’s law school its solid reputation.

Before the Civil War, Minor was a staunch Union supporter and he strove to convince others of the dangers of secession. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, however, and Lincoln’s call for volunteers, Minor was converted to the cause of the Confederacy and served on the home guard throughout the war. It is thanks to Minor and Socrates Maupin that the Federal guard was prevented from pillaging and not improbable burnings of the University. Following the Civil War, in the summer of 1865 when the University’s treasury was empty, Minor and Maupin again came to the University’s rescue, refinancing the University entirely on their own credit.

The percentile of students graduating from the University’s law program under Minor dropped to only nine percent, a much smaller portion than had graduated with the coveted degree under Professor Davis of Judge Tucker. The difficulty of the course, however, did not fail to attract students, and the number of applications to the law program only continued to increase from twenty-eight when he began at the University, to more than one hundred towards the end of his tenure. In 1870, Minor began his
private “Summer Course of Law Lectures,” which extended over two months of the University vacation and became immensely popular among beginners and practitioners of all ages.

Minor was such a skilled lecturer, in fact, that it was deemed his lectures were transcribed by his students and published as lithographs. Minor was grateful for this fact when he published the “Institutes of Common and Statutes Law,” which was released in four editions between 1878 and 1895. Minor’s text became indispensable to Virginia lawyers, and outside of the direct impact he had on his students, it is his greatest legacy.

Outside of his teaching of the law, Minor was also an active Sunday school teacher, and he superintending a Sunday school for slaves before the Civil War, as well as served as a communicant for the Episcopal Church. Minor also taught weekly Bible study classes for students at the University, whose last meetings were held in his study when he was too feeble to walk to the lecture room.

In 1895, Minor passed away just two weeks after a large reception honoring Professor Minor’s service to the University, at which a portrait bust of Minor sculpted by Valentine was presented. Too modest to attend the celebration of his fiftieth incumbency of the chair of law, he held a reception at his home in which his friends thronged about him and pressing his hands with expressions of joy and tears in their eyes that were mirrored by his own expression. Minor left behind his third wife, Ellen Temple Hill, and nine children, three of whom he had by his first marriage to Martha Macon, and six by his second wife Nannie Fisher.
Writings

Institutes of Common and Statute Law, 1876.

Minor's Criminal Law, 1892.


The Theory of Government, 1905.

Further Reading


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XV. Appendix: Figures

Fig. 1 Faculty on the Lawn, c. 1883


Photographs of the University of Virginia Faculty and Students, 1890-1895, Accession #5511, University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Va.
Fig. 2  Composite Photograph of the University of Virginia Faculty, c. 1870

Photograph of the University of Virginia faculty (MSS 6472-a). University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 3 Henry Howard (1792-1874)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 4  John P. Emmet (1796-1841)

Prints File (Prints File). Special Collection, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 5  Socrates Maupin (1800-1895)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 6 William H. McGuffey (1800-1873)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 7 Gessner Harrison (1807-1862)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 8 Albert T. Bledsoe (1809-1877)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 9 James L. Cabell (1813-1889)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 10  John B. Minor (1813-1895)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 11  **George F. Holmes** (1820-1897)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 12  M. Schele de Vere (1820-1898)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 13  **John S. Davis** (1824-1885)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 14  Basil L. Gildersleeve (1824-1924)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 15  **Charles Scott Venable** (1827-1900)

University of Virginia photograph album (RG-30/1/5.801). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 16  Francis H. Smith (1829-1928)

University of Virginia Visual History Collection (RG-30/1/10.011). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 17  Noah K. Davis (1830-1910)

University of Virginia photograph album (RG-30/1/5.801). Special Collections, University of Virginia Library.
Fig. 18  Albert H. Tuttle (1844-?) and Family on the Lawn

Albert Tuttle Papers, 1864-1926, Accession #7327-a, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.
Fig. 19  James F. Harrison (?-1896)

James F. Harrison and Family Photographs, 1877-1883, RG-30/1/6.921, Special Collections, University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Va.
Fig. 20  James F. Harrison and Family outside of their Pavilion residence.

James F. Harrison and Family Photographs, 1877-1883, RG-30/1/6.921, Special Collections, University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Va.